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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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EDWARD HYATT, State Engineer

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## BULLETIN No. 18-B

# CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT LAWS

## 1931 Revision

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# FOREWORD

This bulletin contains in complete form those laws of general application to the organization of irrigation districts which come before the state engineer or the California district securities commission for some part of their procedure. To this list is added the County Water District Act. There are also other statutes providing for forms of organization for water conservation with which neither the state engineer nor the securities commission have any official duties, and these are briefly described herein.

The extent to which the different forms of irrigation district laws have been utilized in the irrigation development of the state has made it desirable to assemble such acts as amended to 1931 in convenient published form. The number and importance of the changes made in these acts at each session of the legislature has made it essential to revise these publications following each session. This has been done, and the bulletins of this department containing these laws for past years are listed together with other bulletins of the department on the back pages of this publication.

There are other acts relating to the functions of the Division of Water Resources which are not contained in this bulletin. Such acts include the Water Commission Act, and the act providing for the supervision of dams. References to separate publications of these acts, where available, are also given in this bulletin. The wide variation of conditions in different areas desiring to organize for irrigation development in California has resulted in the enactment of a similarly wide variety of acts for such purposes. Such variations include those of size of the area to be organized, extent and character of the purposes to be accomplished, extent of the cost, nature of land ownership, and type of agricultural practice. For areas requiring extensive financing carefully phrased acts providing the procedure for such financing are available. For areas of low cost desiring simplicity of operation, less formal types of organization may be used.

There follows a brief discussion of the various California conservation acts, the first five of which are published in full in this bulletin.

## California Irrigation District Act.

This term is used specifically to describe the act governing organizations formed under the older or Wright irrigation district law with its subsequent amendments. While organizations under all similar laws are, in a general sense irrigation districts, other laws have been given various distinguishing titles in an effort to avoid confusion. This act is properly referred to as the California Irrigation District Act. The original or Wright Act, passed in 1887, was largely rewritten by the Bridgeford Act in 1897, and has been extensively amended by nearly every recent legislature. In addition to the amendments to the act itself, separate statutes relating to such districts have been passed from time to time. The California Irrigation District Act provides for voting on a basis of the general electorate of the included area and for ad valorem assessments based on the value to the lands without improvements. It is the most extensively used of all irrigation organization acts of the district type. It is included in full in this bulletin. A summary of its main features and the extent of its use are also given.

Improvement districts within irrigation districts were provided for by legislation passed in 1927. This act, as amended, is given in full. Such improvement districts represent internal divisions of existing districts rather than separate organizations.

### California Water Storage District Act.

This act differs from the California Irrigation District Act mainly in regard to voting and assessments. In water storage districts voting is based on a property qualification, owners being entitled to one vote for each $100 of assessed land value. Such voting does not require residence in the district. Assessments for costs are based on the benefits derived. It is adapted to areas having large holdings, or nonresident land owners, or where benefits are not proportional to land values. Its details and extent of use are summarized herein, followed by its text in full.

### California Water Conservation District Act.

The California Water Conservation District Act was drafted primarily for consolidating the various interests which obtain water from the Kings River, for the purpose of creating storage on that stream, and incidentally for accomplishing an adjustment of the complicated water-right situation along the stream. Under the act a conservation district composed of three or more units, all or any of which shall be irrigation, water storage, reclamation or drainage districts, or any other political subdivisions of the state organized to promote irrigation, reclamation, drainage or flood control may be organized in a single district, in the manner and for the purposes provided in the act. This act is given in full in this bulletin.

### Water District Act.

This act provides for the organization, financing and management of water districts, the original sponsors of the act having in mind the organization of districts mainly embracing entered government land in Chuckawalla Valley and Palo Verde Mesa in Riverside County. The law as amended is of general application and appears in full in this publication.

### County Water District Act.

This act as passed in 1913, and amended in later years, provides for the organization of districts on petition to the county supervisors. The portion of the county proposed to be included must have a population of at least 300. An organization election is held with voting based on the general electorate. A board of directors is elected to manage the district. Bonds may be issued. Costs may be secured by water rates or the county supervisors must levy taxes to cover costs if the income from rates is inadequate. These districts have been used mainly for domestic water supply and only incidentally for irrigation. This act in full is contained herein.

### Conservation Act of 1929.

This act provides for the storage, spreading and for otherwise conserving the water supply of the area included within a conservation district. Organization is initiated by petition to the county board of supervisors, and the act provides for voting on the basis of the general electorate within the boundaries of the district. Assessments are levied on the assessed values of the included lands as determined by the last equalized assessment rolls of the county or counties wherein they are located. Assessments for general expense are limited to 1.5 mills on the dollar. Bonds may be issued when submitted to an election and approved by a two-thirds vote. (Stats. 1929, p. 307; reenacted in 1931, Stats. 1931, p. 2045.)

### County Waterworks District Act.

This act, passed in 1913, was intended to handle distribution of water in unincorporated areas adjacent to Los Angeles. The main use has been for domestic purposes, although some irrigation is supplied by certain districts. Organization requires a petition to the county supervisors who fix the final boundaries and call an election on organization and on issuance of bonds for the cost. The general electorate is used for voting. Titles to district properties rest in the county until the area becomes a part of a municipality, and the county may fix water rates and levy taxes. (Stats. 1913, p. 785; amended Stats. 1931, p. 2191.)

### Municipal Improvement District Act.

These districts are formed within municipalities to provide for various public improvements including water service. Some of such districts supply irrigation. The legislative body of the municipality handles the organization procedure and operation of the district. (Stats. 1915, p. 99.)

### Water Conservation Act of 1927.

This act provides for organizations to spread or otherwise conserve the water supplies of the area included. The organization petition is presented to the county supervisors, an organization election is held with each landowner entitled to one vote for each acre included. Funds are secured by taxes levied by the county. Taxes can not exceed 1.5 mills per dollar on the assessed value of lands and improvements unless authorized by a district election. There are no provisions for issuing bonds. The districts may also take necessary actions to protect their water rights and supplies. This act has been used by districts in Ventura and Tulare counties. (Stats. 1927, p. 160; amended Stats. 1931, p. 425.)

### Conservancy Act of California.

This act, passed in 1919, provides for spreading flood waters, storage and other purposes. No districts have been formed under the act for irrigation purposes. (Stats. 1919, p. 559.)

### Reclamation District Laws.

These provisions have been extensively used for the organization of areas desiring to protect their lands from overflow. The law, however, permits a reclamation district to handle the irrigation of the reclaimed land. Reclamation districts are organized by procedure before the county supervisors. There is no administrative control exercised by the state over such districts except that of the state reclamation board over districts within the Sacramento and San Joaquin drainage district. (Political Code, sections 3446–3493.)

### Palo Verde Irrigation District Act.

This is a special act passed in 1923 and amended in 1925, 1927 and 1931. In most of its features this act follows the procedure of the California Irrigation District Act and was passed for the organization of the Palo Verde district enabling it to finance certain construction work and to take over the Palo Verde joint levee district and the Palo Verde Mutual Water Company. (Stats. 1923, p. 1067.)

## CHAPTER I

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

The following laws are general in character and are assembled for ready reference in connection with the irrigation district and other acts which are included in this bulletin.

### 1. USE OF WATER APPROPRIATED FOR DISTRIBUTION SUBJECT TO REGULATION

*State Constitution, Article XIV, Sec. 1.*

The use of all water now appropriated, or that may hereafter be appropriated, for sale, rental, or distribution, is hereby declared to be a public use, and subject to the regulation and control of the state, in the manner to be prescribed by law * * *.

This section does not impress the distribution of all water appropriated with a public use.

*Niehaus Bros. Co.* vs. *Contra Costa Water Co.*, 159 Cal. 305, 113 Pac. 375, 36 L. R. A. (N. S.) 1045.

But applies to cases where water is appropriated generally for sale, rental or distribution and not to sales to particular persons by ordinary contracts of purchase and sale.

*Thayer* vs. *California Dev. Co.*, 164 Cal. 117, 128 Pac. 21;
*Franciscioni* vs. *Soledad, etc. Co.*, 170 Cal. 221, 149 Pac. 161;
*Allen* vs. *Railroad Com.*, 179 Cal. 68, 175 Pac. 466, 8 A. L. R. 249; appeal dismissed;
*Railroad Com.* vs. *Allen*, 249 U. S. 601, 63 L. ed. 797, 39 Sup. Ct. 259;
*Water Works* vs. *San Francisco*, 82 Cal. 286, 22 Pac. 910, 1046;
*Williamson* vs. *Railroad Com.*, 193 Cal. 22, 193 Pac. 802;
*Danley* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 66 Cal. App. 97, 226 Pac. 854.

### 2. USE OF WATER RESOURCES—RIPARIAN RIGHTS RESTRICTED TO BENEFICIAL USE

*State Constitution, Article XIV, Sec. 3*

It is hereby declared that because of the conditions prevailing in this state the general welfare requires that the water resources of the state be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable, and that the waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented, and that the conservation of such waters is to be exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof in the interest of the people and for the public welfare. The right to water or to the use or flow of water in or from any natural stream or watercourse in this state is and shall be limited to such water as shall be reasonably required for the beneficial use to be served, and such right does not and shall not extend to the waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use or unreasonable method of diversion of water. Riparian rights in a stream or watercourse attach to, but to no more than so much of the flow thereof as may be required or used consistently with this section, for the purposes for which such lands are, or may be made adaptable, in view of such reasonable and beneficial uses; *provided, however,* that nothing herein contained shall be construed as depriving any riparian owner of the reasonable use of water of the stream to which his land is riparian under reasonable methods of diversion and use, or of depriving any appropriator of water to which he is lawfully entitled. This section shall be self-executing, and the legislature may also enact laws in the furtherance of the policy in this section contained. (New section adopted November 6, 1928.)

## 3. LEGISLATURE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE FOR SUPERVISION OF DISTRICTS

*State Constitution, Article XI, Sec. 13*

The legislature shall not delegate to any special commission, private corporation, company, association or individual any power to make, control, appropriate, supervise or in any way interfere with any county, city, town or municipal improvement, money, property, or effects, whether held in trust or otherwise, or to levy taxes or assessments or perform any municipal function whatever, except that the legislature shall have power to provide for the supervision, regulation and conduct, in such manner as it may determine, of the affairs of irrigation districts, reclamation districts or drainage districts, organized or existing under any law of this state. (Amendment adopted November 3, 1914.)

Act permitting irrigation district to lease canals and works does not violate this section.

*Byington* vs. *Sacramento, etc., Co.*, 170 Cal. 124, 148 Pac. 791.

Wright Act is not a violation of this section.

*Fallbrook Irr. Dist.* vs. *Bradley,* 164 U. S. 112, 41 L. Ed. 369, 17 S. Ct. 56.

Laws relating to irrigation districts must have a uniform operation.

*Mordecai* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 183 Cal. 434, 192 Pac. 40.

To convey to mortgagee statutory powers of trustees of irrigation district is a violation of this section.

*Merchants, etc. Bank* vs. *Escondido Irr. Dist.*, 144 Cal. 329, 77 Pac. 937.

Irrigation district is not a municipal corporation but a public corporation for municipal purposes.

*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *White,* 186 Cal. 183, 198 Pac. 1060.

The 1914 amendment to this section gave to the legislature an enlarged discretion touching the regulation and conduct of irrigation districts.

*Wores* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 193 Cal. 609, 227 Pac. 181.

Legislature has plenary power over districts organized for reclamation purposes.

*Barber* vs. *Galloway,* 195 Cal. 1, 231 Pac. 34;
*Palo Verde Irr. Dist.* vs. *Seeley,* 198 Cal. 477, 245 Pac. 1092;
*Willard* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 726; 258 Pac. 959;
*San Diego* vs. *La Mesa, etc. Irr. Dist.*, 63 C. A. D. 777, 292 Pac. 1082;
*Morrison* vs. *Smith Bros.*, 80 Cal. Dec. 571, 293 Pac. 53;
*Peterson* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 65 Cal. App. 670, 225 Pac. 28;
*Pasadena* vs. *Chamberlain,* 204 Cal. 653, 269 Pac. 630;
*Henshaw* vs. *Foster,* 176 Cal. 507, 169 Pac. 82;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea,* 88 Cal. 334, 26 Pac. 237;
*Argyle Dredging Co.* vs. *Chambers,* 40 Cal. App. 332, 181 Pac. 84;
*Recl. Dist.* vs. *Superior Court,* 171 Cal. 672, 154 Pac. 845;
*Merchants Bank* vs. *Escondido Irr. Dist.*, 144 Cal. 329, 77 Pac. 937;
*San Leandro* vs. *Railroad Com.*, 183 Cal. 229, 191 Pac. 1;
*Turpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

## 4. EMINENT DOMAIN

*State Constitution, Article I, Sec. 14*

**Taking Immediate Possession.**

Private property shall not be taken or damaged for public use without just compensation having first been made to, or paid into court for, the owner, and no right of way shall be appropriated to the use of any corporation, except a municipal corporation or a county, until full compensation therefor be first made in money or ascertained and paid into court for the owner, irrespective of any benefits from any improvement proposed by such corporation, which compensation shall be ascertained by a jury, unless a jury be waived, as in other civil cases in a court of record, as shall be prescribed by law; provided, that in an action in eminent domain brought by the state, or a county, or a municipal corporation, or a drainage, irrigation, levee, or reclamation district, the aforesaid state or political subdivision thereof or district may take immediate possession and use of any right of way required for a public use whether the fee thereof or an easement therefor be sought upon first commencing eminent domain proceedings according to law in a court of competent jurisdiction and thereupon giving such security in the way of money deposits as the court in which such proceedings are pending may direct, and in such amounts as the court may determine to be reasonably adequate to secure to the owner of the property sought to be taken immediate payment of just compensation for such taking and any damage incident thereto, including damages sustained by reason of an adjudication that there is no necessity for taking the property, as soon as the same can be ascertained according to law. The court may, upon motion of any party of said eminent domain proceedings, after such notice to the other parties as the court may prescribe, alter the amount of such security so required in such proceedings. The taking of private property for a railroad run by steam or electric power for logging or lumbering purposes shall be deemed a taking for a public use, and any person, firm, company or corporation taking private property under the law of eminent domain for such purposes shall thereupon and thereby become a common carrier. (Amendment adopted November 5, 1918.)

See citations to act following.

*An act regarding irrigation and declaring the same to be a public use.*

(Approved May 1, 1911; Stats. 1911, p. 1407.)

**Use of Water a Public Use.**

SECTION 1. Irrigation in the State of California is hereby declared to be a public necessity and a public use, and the power of eminent domain may be exercised on behalf of such public use in accordance with the provisions of title VII, part III of the Code of Civil Procedure of the State of California; provided, that any person, firm or corporation, exercising the power of eminent domain and in control of water appropriated for sale, rental or distribution, shall not, by this act, be relieved from the duty of furnishing water to irrigate the lands over which any right of way is obtained by condemnation for irrigation purposes as required by an act entitled, "An act to regulate and control the sale, rental and distribution of appropriated water in this state, other than in any city, city and county, or town therein and to secure the rights of way for the conveyance of such water to the places of use," approved March 12, 1885, or any other law now in force in this state.

Railroad commission has no power to hear matter involving the acquisition of property held in private ownership but jurisdiction is vested in superior court.

*Chase Lumber Co.* vs. *Railroad Com.*, 80 Cal. Dec. 324, 192 Pac. 124.

Decision of state as to necessity of taking is conclusive on federal court.

*Rindge Co.* vs. *Los Angeles*, 262 U. S. 700, 67 L. ed. 1186, 43 S. ct. 689.

Formation of an irrigation district is a public purpose for which private property may be taken.

*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *Williams*, 76 Cal. 360, 18 Pac. 379;
*Fallbrook Irr. Dist.* vs. *Bradley*, 164 U. S. 112, 41 L. ed. 369, 17 S. ct. 56;
*Tormey* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 53 Cal. App. 559, 200 Pac. 814.

Waiver of right to injunction.

*Conaway* vs. *Yolo Water etc. Co.*, 204 Cal. 125, 226 Pac. 944;
*Collier* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 82 Cal. Dec. 351, 2 P. (2d) 790.

Where several parcels are sought to be condemned belonging to different owners, the security must consist of a separate and distinct deposit for each.

*Weiler* vs. *Superior Court*, 188 Cal. 729, 207 Pac. 247.

This section does not authorize an action against an irrigation, reclamation or drainage district for negligence of its officers or agents.

*Western Assurance Co.* vs. *Drainage Dist.*, 72 Cal. App. 68, 237 Pac. 59.

Procedure for ascertainment of compensation is not part of right guaranteed by constitution.

*Los Angeles* vs. *Oliver*, 192 Cal. App. 299, 283 Pac. 298.

Unauthorized taking may be ratified.

*Newberry* vs. *Evans*, 97 Cal. App. 120, 275 Pac. 465.

Taking possession prior to judgment.

*Felton Water Co.* vs. *Superior Court*, 82 Cal. App. 382, 256 Pac. 255.

Use and possession prior to judgment.

*Marblehead L. Co.* vs. *Superior Court*, 60 Cal. App. 644, 213 Pac. 718.

An irrigation district may not take possession before suit is filed.

*Stone* vs. *Cordua Irr. Dist.*, 72 Cal. App. 331, 237 Pac. 554.

This section does not violate the 14th amendment to the federal constitution.

*Marblehead L. Co.* vs. *Superior Court*, 60 Cal. App. 644, 213 Pac. 718;
*Stone* vs. *Cordua Irr. Dist.*, 72 Cal. App. 331, 237 Pac. 544.

Appropriation for private use of taker is not a public use.

*Gravelly Ford Canal Co.* vs. *Pope and Talbot L. Co.*, 36 Cal. App. 556, 178 Pac. 150; see also 192 Cal. 4, 218 Pac. 405;
*Nickey* vs. *Stearns*, 126 Cal. 150, 58 Pac. 459.

Irrigation district is agency of state and use to which water is put is a public use.

*Sutro Heights L. Co.* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 81 Cal. Dec. 346, 296 Pac. 1088. See also as to effect of consent to taking.

Part of water from single source may be devoted to public and part retained for private use.

*McIntyre* vs. *Consolidated Water Co.*, 205 Cal. 231, 270 Pac. 444.

Decision of state as to what is a public use is entitled to great weight in federal courts.

*Rindge Co.* vs. *Los Angeles*, 262 U. S. 700, 67 L. ed. 1186, 43 S. ct. 689;
*Nickey* vs. *Stearns*, 126 Cal. 150, 58 Pac. 459; see Sec. 17, Irr. Dist. Act, post; also State Constitution, Art. XIV, sec. 1, ante.

**Certain Acts Not Affected.**

Sec. 2. This act shall not repeal or modify an act entitled, "An act to regulate and control the sale, rental and distribution of appropriated water in this state, other than in any city, city and county, or town therein, and to secure the rights of way for the conveyance of such water to the place of use," approved March 12, 1885, and other acts supplemental thereto and amendatory thereof, nor shall the same be construed to alter or change the law of the State of California as to the duty of any person, firm or corporation in charge of a public use to furnish water.

**Effective, When.**

Sec. 3. This act shall be in force from and after its passage.

## 5. IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AUTHORIZED TO ACQUIRE STOCK OF WATER CORPORATIONS

*State Constitution, Article IV, Sec. 31*

The legislature shall have no power to give or to lend, or to authorize the giving or lending, of the credit of the state, or of any county, city and county, city, township or other political corporation or subdivision of the state now existing, or that may be hereafter established, in aid of or to any person, association, or corporation, whether municipal or otherwise, or to pledge the credit thereof, in any manner whatever, for the payment of the liabilities of any individual, association, municipal or other corporation whatever; nor shall it have power to make any gift or authorize the making of any gift, of any public money or thing of value to any individual, municipal or other corporation whatever; provided, that nothing in this section shall prevent the legislature granting aid pursuant to section 22 of this article; and it shall not have power to authorize the state, or any political subdivision thereof, to subscribe for stock, or to become a stockholder in any corporation whatever; provided, further, that irrigation districts for the purpose of acquiring the control of any entire international water system necessary for its use and purposes, a part of which is situated in the United States, and a part thereof in a foreign country, may in the manner authorized by law, acquire the stock of any foreign corporation which is the owner of, or which holds the title to the part of such system situated in a foreign country; provided, further, that irrigation districts for the purpose of acquiring water and water rights and other property necessary for their uses and purposes, may acquire and hold the stock of corporations, domestic or foreign, owning waters, water rights, canals, waterworks, franchises or concessions subject to the same obligations and liabilities as are imposed by law upon all other stockholders in such corporation; * * *

And provided, still further, that notwithstanding the restrictions contained in this constitution, the treasurer of any city, county, or city and county shall have power and it shall be his duty to make such temporary transfers from the funds in his custody as may be necessary to provide funds for meeting the obligations incurred for maintenance purposes by any city, county, city and county, district, or other political subdivision whose funds are in his custody and are paid out solely through his office. Such temporary transfer of funds to any political subdivision shall be made only upon resolution adopted by the governing body of the city, county, or city and county directing the treasurer of such city, county, or city and county to make such temporary transfer. Such temporary transfer of funds to any political subdivision shall not exceed eighty-five per cent of the taxes accruing to such political subdivision, shall not be made prior to the first day of the fiscal year nor after the last Monday in April of the current fiscal year, and shall be replaced from the taxes accruing to such political subdivision before any other obligation of such political subdivision is met from such taxes. (Amendment adopted November 2, 1926.)

State may purchase drainage district warrants.

*Argyle Dredging Co.* vs. *Chambers*, 40 Cal. App. 332, 151 Pac. 84;
*Sacramento Dr. Dist.* vs. *Riley*, 199 Cal. 668, 251 Pac. 207.

Legislature may appropriate money for benefit of reclamation districts.

*Rec. Board* vs. *Chambers*, 46 Cal. App. 476, 189 Pac. 479.

Legislature can not direct payment of irrigation district officer's salary out of county funds.

*Knox* vs. *Board of Sup.*, 58 Cal. 59.
*Los Angeles G. & E. Corp.* vs. *Los Angeles*, 188 Cal. 307, 205 Pac. 125.

## 6. PROTECTION OF CANALS AND WORKS

### *Penal Code, Sec. 592*

**Water Ditches, Etc., Penalty for Trespass or Interference With.**

Every person who shall, without authority of the owner or managing agent, and with intent to defraud, take water from any canal, ditch, flume or reservoir used for the purpose of holding or conveying water for manufacturing, agricultural, mining, irrigating or generation of power, or domestic uses, or who shall without like authority, raise, lower or otherwise disturb any gate or other apparatus thereof, used for the control or measurement of water, or who shall empty or place, or cause to be emptied or placed, into any such canal, ditch, flume or reservoir, any rubbish, filth or obstruction to the free flow of the water is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Stats. 1899, p. 146.)

### *Penal Code, Sec. 627*

**Canal Banks and Rights of Way; Penalty for Trespass by Hunters.**

Every person who, for the purpose of hunting, pursuing, taking, killing or destroying any animal or bird, trespasses upon the canal banks or rights of way of any irrigation district or upon any other lands where signs are displayed not less than three to the mile along all exterior boundaries and at all roads and trails entering such lands forbidding such trespassing, without the written permission of the owner of such lands, or his agent, or the person in lawful possession thereof, or who maliciously tears down, mutilates or destroys any sign, signboard, or other notice forbidding hunting on such lands, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as making the entering or use of any road or trail on such lands, canal banks or rights of way unlawful when entered and used for the purpose of communicating with the owner of such lands, or his agent, or the person in lawful possession of such lands. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any person employed as a hunter by the state or by the United States to hunt and destroy predatory animals, or birds, when acting in the course of his employment.

The terms "canal" and "rights of way" as used herein do not include the terms "lakes" or "reservoirs." (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 1321.)

### *Penal Code, Sec. 607*

**Bridges, Dams, Levees, Etc., Penalty for Destroying or Injuring.**

Every person who wilfully and maliciously cuts, breaks, injures or destroys any bridge, dam, canal, flume, aqueduct, levee, embankment, reservoir, or other structure erected to create hydraulic power, or to drain or reclaim any swamp, overflow, tide or marsh land, or to store or conduct water for mining, manufacturing, reclamation, or agricultural purposes, or for the supply of the inhabitants of any city or town, or any embankment necessary to the same, or either of them, or wilfully or maliciously makes, or causes to be made, any aperture or plows up the bottom or sides in such dam, canal, flume, aqueduct, reservoir, embankment, levee, or structure, with intent to injure or destroy the same; or draws up, cuts or injures any piles fixed in the ground for the purpose of securing any sea bank, or sea walls, or any dock, quay or jetty, lock, or sea wall; or who, between the first day of October and the fifteenth day of April of each year, plows up or loosens the soil in the bed or on the side of any natural watercourse, reclamation or drainage ditch, with an intent to destroy the same without removing such soil within twenty-four hours from such watercourse, reclamation or drainage ditch, or who, between the fifteenth day of April and the first day of October of each year, shall plow up or loosen the soil in the bed or on the sides of such natural watercourse, reclamation or drainage ditch, with an intent to destroy the same and shall not remove therefrom the soil so plowed up or loosened before the first day of October next thereafter, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars and not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail, not exceeding two years, or by both; provided that nothing in this section shall be construed so as to in any manner prohibit any person from digging or removing soil from any such watercourse, reclamation or drainage ditch, for the purpose of mining. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 1530.)

## 7. PREVENTING OBSTRUCTION OF OR INJURIES TO HIGHWAYS

### *Political Code, Sec. 2737*

**Injury to Highway by Drainage or Seepage Water.**

Whoever obstructs or injures any highway, or diverts any watercourse thereon, or drains water from his land upon any highway, to the injury thereof, by means of ditches or dams, is liable to a penalty of ten dollars for each day such obstruction or injury remains, and must be punished as provided in section 588 of the Penal Code. Any person, persons, or corporation who shall be storing or distributing water for any purpose, and shall permit the water to overflow or saturate, by seepage, any highway, to the injury thereof, shall, upon notification of the road commissioner of the district where such overflow or seepage occurs, repair the damages occasioned by such overflow or seepage; and should such repair not be made within a reasonable time by such person, persons, or corporation, said road commissioner shall make such repairs, and recover the expense thereof from such person, persons, or corporation, in an action at law. All persons excavating irrigation, mining, or draining ditches across public highways shall be required to bridge said ditches at such crossings, and upon neglect to do so, the road commissioner for that road district shall construct the same and recover the cost of constructing said bridge or bridges of such persons by action, as provided in this section; provided, that the supervisors of any county may construct and maintain bridges over any and all ditches used exclusively for irrigation purposes, and which cross public highways in the county over which they have authority, and may, with the consent of the owners of such ditches, declare any and all such bridges to be public property, and maintain and keep the same in repair at the expense of such county. And whoever wilfully injures any public bridge is hereby declared to be guilty of a misdemeanor, and is also liable for actual damages for such injury, to be recovered by the county in a civil action; provided, further, that every person who knowingly allows the carcass of any dead animal (which animal belonged to him at the time of its death) to be put or to remain within one hundred feet of any street, alley, public highway, or road in common use, and every person who puts the carcass of any dead animal within one hundred feet of any street, alley, highway, or road in common use, or who shall deposit on any highway any refuse or waste tin, sheet-iron, or broken glass, is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Amended, Stats. 1897, p. 217.)

*Western State Gas & Electric Co.* vs. *Bayside Lumber Co.*, 182 Cal. 140, 187 Pac. 735.

## *Civil Code, Sec. 551*

### Water Conduits Must Not Obstruct Highways.

No canal, flume, or other appliance for the conducting of water must be so laid, constructed, or maintained as to obstruct any public highway; and every person or corporation owning, maintaining, operating or using any such canal, flume, or appliance, crossing or running along any public highway, must construct, maintain, and keep in repair such bridges across the same as may be necessary to the safe and convenient use of such highway by the public; and on failure so to do, the board of supervisors of the county, after seven days' notice in writing to said person or corporation, may construct or repair such bridge or bridges, and recover of such person or corporation the amount of expenditure made in so doing; provided, however, that bridges heretofore or hereafter constructed in a permanent manner and approved by the county engineer, or the county board of supervisors, by irrigation districts, or other quasi municipal corporations, or public corporations, or private corporations or persons, over irrigation ditches or drainage ditches, must, after such construction and acceptance as aforesaid, be maintained and kept in repair by the county in which said bridges are situated and the cost of such maintenance and repair must be borne by such county. (Amended, Stats. 1927, p. 589.)

*South Yuba Water Company* vs. *Auburn*, 16 Cal. App. 775, 118 Pac. 101; *City of Madera* vs. *Madera Canal & Irr. Co.*, 159 Cal. 749, 115 Pac. 936.

## 8. CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC WORKS

### DOING OF PUBLIC WORK BY DAY'S LABOR OR FORCE ACCOUNT

*An act relating to the doing of public work by day's labor or force account, except emergency and maintenance work and work costing less than ten thousand dollars; requiring the state highway engineer, state engineer, the state architect, county engineers, county surveyors, city and county engineers, county highway engineers, road commissioners, city engineers, commissioners of public works, superintendents of streets, harbor engineers, flood control engineers, and the engineers of any reclamation, irrigation or other districts, political subdivisions or agencies of the state directing, supervising or superintending such work, or in charge of the engineering for or in connection therewith, to keep the costs, prepare and file plans, specifications and estimates of cost, and, upon completion, prepare and file certificates of cost thereof; and providing for the keeping of such plans, specifications and certificates as public records.*

(Approved June 21, 1923, Stats. 1923, p. 1053; amended Stats. 1925, p. 292.)

**Plans, Etc., for Public Work to Be Done by Day's Labor or Force Account; Certificate of Cost, Etc., to Be Filed.**

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the state highway engineer, the state engineer, the state architect, and of every county engineer, county surveyor, city and county engineer, county highway engineer, road commissioner, city engineer, commissioner of public works, superintendent of streets, harbor engineer, flood control engineer, the engineer of any board or commission of the state, the engineer of any board or commission of any city or city and county, and the engineer of any reclamation, irrigation or other district, political subdivision or agency of the state directing, supervising or superintending the construction, or in charge of engineering work for or in connection with the construction of any bridge, road, street, highway, ditch, canal, dam, tunnel, excavation, building or structure within the state by day's labor or force account, except maintenance work, work occasioned by emergency and work costing less than five thousand dollars, to keep an accurate account of the cost of such work; to prepare and file in his office, prior to the commencement of the work, full, complete and accurate plans and specifications, and an estimate of the cost thereof, except where other and adequate provision is made by law requiring the preparation and filing of such plans, specifications and estimates of cost by some other officer, or in some other office; and within sixty days from the completion of any such work, to prepare and file in the office of the county clerk of the county in which the work is performed, or if any such reclamation, irrigation or other district maintains an office, then in the office of his own such district instead of the office of the county clerk, a certificate in writing verified by him in the same manner as complaints in civil actions, setting forth the estimate of cost, names of bidders with prices bid, if bids there be, changes in adopted or approved plans and specifications, that the work performed has or has not been done in accordance with such plans and specifications, a list of any publicly owned equipment used in the work, and an itemized statement of the actual cost of all labor, materials, rentals, repairs, compensation and other insurance, transportation of labor, equipment and materials, engineering or architectural services including the services of public employees in connection with such work, and any and all cost entering into the work performed, including a reasonable amount for depreciation of publicly-owned equipment used in the work and the costs of repairs thereon while so used. (Stats. 1925, p. 292.)

Sec. 2. Such plans, specifications and certificates shall be open to inspection and examination as a public record.

Sec. 3. Every such public officer or public employee mentioned in section 1 of this act who wilfully violates any of the provisions of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Stats. 1925, p. 292.)

## SECURITY FOR CLAIMS AGAINST CONTRACTOR

*An act to secure the payment of claims of persons employed by contractors upon public works, and the claims of persons who furnish materials, supplies, teams, implements or machinery used or consumed by such contractors in the performance of such works, and prescribing the duties of certain public officers with respect thereto.*

(Approved May 10, 1919, Stats. 1919, p. 487; amended Stats. 1925, p. 538; amended Stats. 1927, p. 282.)

### Bond of Contractor on Public Work.

Section 1. Every contractor, person, company, or corporation, to whom is awarded a contract involving an expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars for the improvement, erection or construction of any building, road, bridge or other structure, excavating, or other mechanical work for this state, or for any political subdivision or agency of the state shall, before entering upon the performance of such work, file with the commissioners, managers, trustees, officers, board of supervisors, board of trustees, common council, or other body by whom such contract was awarded, a good and sufficient bond, to be approved by such contracting body, officers or board, in a sum not less than one-half of the total amount payable by the terms of the contract; provided, that whenever the total amount, payable by the terms of any such contract shall be not less than five million dollars or more than ten million dollars, a bond in a sum not less than one-fourth of the amount payable under the terms of the contract may be accepted and if the amount payable under any such contract exceeds the sum of ten million dollars, a bond in the sum of two million five hundred thousand dollars shall be sufficient; such bond shall be executed by either two or more good and sufficient sureties or by corporate surety as provided by law, in an amount not less than the sum specified in the bond, and must provide that if the contractor, person, company, or corporation, or his or its subcontractors, fail to pay for any materials, provisions, provender or other supplies, or teams, used in, upon, for or about the performance of the work contracted to be done, or for any work or labor thereon of any kind, that the surety or sureties will pay for the same, in an amount not exceeding the sum specified in the bond, and also, in case suit is brought upon such bond, a reasonable attorney's fee, to be fixed by the court. Such bond must by its terms inure to the benefit of any and all persons, companies and corporations entitled to file claims under this act so as to give a right of action to them or their assigns in any suit brought upon said bond. Unless such bond is filed as herein provided, no claim in favor of the contractor arising under such contract shall be audited, allowed, or paid by any public officer of this state, or of any political subdivision or state agency, but persons who have in good faith, performed work upon such contract, or supplied materials for the execution thereof, shall, upon giving the notice prescribed in section 2 hereof, be entitled to receive payment of their respective claims in the manner provided by sections 1184, 1184a, 1184b, and 1184c of the Code of Civil Procedure. (Stats. 1927, p. 283.)

*Continental Nat. Bank* vs. *Republic Cas. Co.*, 202 Cal. 586, 262 Pac. 300;
*Cooley* vs. *Freeman*, 204 Cal. 59, 266 Pac. 545;
*Diamond Match Co.* vs. *Aetna Cas. etc. Co.*, 60 Cal. App. 425, 213 Pac. 56;
*Granite Rock Co.* vs. *Freeman*, 93 Cal. App. 507, 269 Pac. 668;
*Sunset L. Co.* vs. *Smith*, 95 Cal. App. 307, 272 Pac. 1068;
*Lake* vs. *Southern Surety Co.*, 104 Cal. App. 727, 286 Pac. 490;
*Peoples Nat'l Bank* vs. *Southern S. Co.*, 105 Cal. App. 731, 288 Pac. 827;
*County of Sutter* vs. *Superior Court*, 188 Cal. 292, 204 Pac. 849;
*Burr* vs. *Gardella*, 53 Cal. App. 377, 200 Pac. 493;
*McMorrey* vs. *Superior Court*, 54 Cal. App. 76, 201 Pac. 797;
*Evans* vs. *Shackleford*, 64 Cal. App. 750, 222 Pac. 846.

### Filing of Claims by Materialmen, Laborers, Etc.

SEC. 2. Any materialman, person, company or corporation furnishing materials, provisions, provender or other supplies used in, upon. for or about the performance of the work contracted to be executed or performed, or any person, company or corporation renting or hiring teams or implements or machinery for or contributing to said work to be done, or any person who performed work or labor upon the same, or any person who supplies both work and materials, and whose claim has not been paid by the contractor, company, or corporation, to whom the contract has been awarded, or by the subcontractors of said contractor, company, or corporation, may at any time prior to the expiration of the period within which claims of lien must be filed for record as prescribed by section 1187 of the Code of Civil Procedure file with the commissioners, managers, trustees, officers, board of supervisors, board of trustees, common council, or other body by whom such contract was awarded, or with the controller, auditor, or other public disbursing officer whose duty it is to make payments under the provisions of such contract a verified statement of such claims, together with a statement that the same have not been paid. It shall be lawful for the state or any public board, commission, or officer thereof, or any political subdivision thereof, within ten days after the completion of any contract or structure, or work of improvement, provided for in this act, or within ten days after there has been a cessation from labor thereon for a period of thirty days, to file for record in the office of the county recorder of the county or counties where the property is situated, a notice setting forth the date when the same was completed or on which cessation from labor occurred, together with the name of the state or such public board, commission or officer thereof, or such political subdivision thereof and a description of the property or public work or structure sufficient for identification and the name of the contractor or contractors, the names of the sureties, if any, which notice shall be verified by some officer of the state or some member of such board, commission or officer thereof, or of such political subdivision thereof, and in case such notice be not so filed, the failure to so file shall have the same effect as is provided in section 1187 of the Code of Civil Procedure with reference to the "owner." Actions against the state, public board, commission, or officer thereof, or the political subdivision of the state, or the disbursing officer whose duty it is to make payments under the provisions of the contract for the public improvement in question, brought by any claimant who has filed claim under this act, or his assign, shall be governed by the provisions of section 1184, 1184a, 1184b, and 1184c of the Code of Civil Procedure and the verified notice provided for in the said sections shall be equivalent for all purposes to the verified claim provided for herein.

No assignment by the contractor of the whole or any part of the money due him or to be due him under the contract or for "extras" in connection therewith, whether made before a verified claim is filed as provided for herein or after said claim is filed, shall be held to take priority over claims filed under this section and such assignment shall have no binding force in so far as the rights of the claimants who file claims thereunder, or their assigns, are concerned; provided, that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the payment of any money to the contractor or his assigns, so long as no verified claim is on file before the disbursing officer shall have actually surrendered possession of the warrant, checks, bonds, or money or the payment to said contractor or his assigns of any money due him or his assigns over and above the total amount of the claims filed at that time plus such interest and court costs as might be reasonably anticipated in connection with said claims.

Suit against the surety or sureties on the bond of the contractor required under section 1 hereof, may be brought by any claimant, or his assign, at any time after the claimant has ceased to perform labor or furnish material or both and until the expiration of six months after the period in which verified claims may be filed as provided herein. The filing of a verified claim shall not be a condition precedent to the maintenance of such action against the surety or sureties on the bond and an action on such bond may be maintained separately from and without the filing of an action against the board, commission, officer or other body by whom such contract was awarded. And upon the trial of any such action, the court shall award to the prevailing party a reasonable attorney's fee, to be taxed as costs, and to be included in the judgment therein rendered.

If the contractor, subcontractor or other person against whom any claim is filed as provided in this act shall dispute the correctness or validity of any claim so filed it shall be lawful for the controller, auditor or other public disbursing officer whose duty it is to make payments under the provisions of such contract or the commissioner, managers, trustees, officers, board of supervisors, board of trustees, common council or other body by whom the contract for the improvement was awarded, in its or his discretion, to permit the contractor to whom said contract was awarded to deliver to such board, commission or officer a bond executed by some corporation authorized to issue surety bonds in the State of California, in a penal sum equal to one and one-fourth times the amount of said claim, which said bond shall guarantee the payment of any sum which said claimant may recover on said claim together with his costs of suit in said action, if he shall recover therein, and upon the filing of said bond by and with the consent of such board, commission or officer, then such board, commission or officer shall not withhold any moneys from said contractor on account of said claim. The sureties upon said bond shall be jointly and severally liable to said claimant with the sureties upon the bond given in accordance with section 1 of this act. (Amended, Stats. 1925, p. 539.)

*Granite Rock Co.* vs. *Freeman*, 93 Cal. App. 507, 269 Pac. 668;
*Sunset L. Co.* vs. *Smith*, 95 Cal. App. 307, 272 Pac. 1068;
*County of Sutter* vs. *Superior Court*, 188 Cal. 292, 204 Pac. 849;
*Diamond Match Company* vs. *Aetna Cas. etc. Co.*, 60 Cal. App. 425, 213 Pac. 56;
*Evans* vs. *Shackelford*, 64 Cal. App. 750.

SEC. 3. The act entitled "An act to secure the payment of the claims of materialmen, mechanics, or laborers, employed by contractors upon state, municipal, or other public work," approved March 27, 1897, and all acts amendatory thereof are hereby repealed: saving to all persons, however, all rights which have accrued under the provisions of said statutes, or any thereof.

## PRESENTATION OF FALSE CLAIMS

### *Penal Code, Sec. 72*

Every person who, with intent to defraud, presents for allowance or for payment to any state board or officer, or to any county, town, city, district, ward or village board or officer, authorized to allow or pay the same if genuine, any false or fraudulent claim, bill, account, voucher, or writing, is guilty of a felony. (Stats. 1927, p. 790.)

Flood control district is a state board and officers thereof are state officers within the purview of this section.

*People* vs. *Richards*, 86 Cal. App. 87, 260 Pac. 582.

Immaterial that warrant upon which claim was based was irregularly issued.

*People* vs. *Carolan*, 71 Cal. 195, 12 Pac. 52;
*People* vs. *Howard*, 135 Cal. 266, 67 Pac. 143;
*People* vs. *Maloney*, 145 Cal. 104, 78 Pac. 354;
*Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.* vs. *Ralph*, 184 Cal. 557, 194 Pac. 1005;
*People* vs. *Lanterman*, 9 Cal. App. 676, 100 Pac. 720;
*People* vs. *Butler*, 35 Cal. App. 357, 169 Pac. 918;
*People* vs. *Ralph*, 67 Cal. App. 270, 227 Pac. 642.

## WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOR

*An act to provide for the payment of not less than the general prevailing rate of wages on public works, and not less than the general prevailing rate of wages for legal holiday and overtime work on public works, providing for the ascertainment of such general prevailing rate by the public body awarding the contract and its insertion in the contract and call for bids for the contract, providing for the keeping of records of the wages paid all workers engaged in public work and the inspection of such records by the proper public officials, providing for a forfeiture for each calendar day, or portion thereof, any worker is paid less than the rate and for a stipulation to this effect in the contract, and providing other penalties for violation of the provisions thereof.*

(Approved May 25, 1931, Stats. 1931, p. 910.)

### Not Less Than Prevailing Wage Rate to be Paid.

SECTION 1. Not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for work of a similar character in the locality in which the work is performed, and not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for legal holiday and overtime work, shall be paid to all laborers, workmen and mechanics employed by or on behalf of the State of California, or by or on behalf of any county, city and county, city, town, district or other political subdivision of the said state, engaged in the construction of public works, exclusive of maintenance work. Laborers, workmen and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors in the execution of any contract or contracts for public works with the State of California, or any officer or public body thereof, or in the execution of any contract or contracts for public works with any county, city and county, city, town, township, district or other political subdivision of said state, or any officer or public body thereof, shall be deemed to be employed upon public works.

### Ascertainment of Prevailing Wage Rate to Be Specified in Call for Bids; Forfeiture as Penalty for Violation.

SEC. 2. The public body awarding any contract for public work on behalf of the State of California, or on behalf of any county, city and county, city, town, township, district or other political subdivision thereof, or otherwise undertaking any public works, shall ascertain the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the locality in which the work is to be performed, for each craft or type of workman or mechanic needed to execute the contract, and shall specify in the call for bids for said contract, and in the contract itself, what the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the said locality is for each craft or type of workman needed to execute the contract, also the general prevailing rate for legal holiday and overtime work, and it shall be mandatory upon the contractor to whom the contract is awarded, and upon any subcontractor under him, to pay not less than the said specified rates to all laborers, workmen and mechanics employed by them in the execution of the contract. The contractor shall forfeit as a penalty to the state or political subdivision, district or municipality on whose behalf the contract is made or awarded, ten dollars for each laborer, workman or mechanic employed, for each calendar day, or portion thereof, such laborer, workman or mechanic is paid less than the said stipulated rates for any work done under said contract, by him, or by any subcontractor under him, and the said public body awarding the contract shall cause to be inserted in the contract a stipulation to this effect. It shall be the duty of such public body awarding the contract, and its officers and agents, to take cognizance of complaints of all violations of the provisions of this act committed in the course of the execution of the contract, and, when making payments to the contractor of moneys becoming due under said contract, to withhold and retain therefrom all sums and amounts which shall have been forfeited pursuant to the herein said stipulation and the terms of this act; provided, however, that no sum shall be so withheld, retained or forfeited, except from the final payment, without a full investigation by either the division of labor statistics and law enforcement of the state department of industrial relations or by said awarding body; and provided, further, that in all cases of contracts with assessment or improvement districts where full payment is made in the form of a single warrant, or other evidence of full payment, after completion and acceptance of the work, the awarding body shall accept from the contractor in cash a sum equal to, and in lieu of, any amount required to be withheld, retained or forfeited under the provisions of this section, and said awarding body shall then release the final warrant or payment in full. It shall be lawful for any contractor to withhold from any subcontractor under him sufficient sums to cover any penalties withheld from him by the awarding body on account of the said subcontractor's failure to comply with the terms of this act, and if payment has already been made to him the contractor may recover from him the amount of the penalty or forfeiture in a suit at law.

### Record to Be Kept of Wages Paid.

SEC. 3. The contractor and each subcontractor shall keep, or cause to be kept, an accurate record showing the names and occupations of all laborers, workmen and mechanics employed by him, in connection with the said public work, and showing also the actual per diem wages paid to each of such workers, which record shall be open at all reasonable hours to the inspection of the public body awarding the contract, its officers and agents, and to the chief of the division of labor statistics and law enforcement of the state department of industrial relations, his deputies and agents.

### Definitions; Public Work; Construction Work for Irrigation Districts Included; Locality Where Work Performed; Prevailing Rate.

SEC. 4. Construction work done for irrigation, utility, reclamation, improvement and other districts, or other public agency or agencies, public officer or body, as well as street, sewer and other improvement work done under the direction and supervision or by the authority of any officer or public body of the state, or of any political subdivision, district or municipality thereof, whether such political subdivision, district or municipality thereof operates under a freeholder's charter heretofore or hereafter approved or not, also any construction or repair work done under contract, and paid for in whole or in part out of public funds, other than work done directly by any public utility company pursuant to order of the railroad commission or other public authority, whether or not done under public supervision or direction, or paid for wholly or in part out of public funds, shall be held to be "public works" within the meaning of this act. The term "locality in which the work is performed" shall be held to mean the city and county, county or counties in which the building, highway, road, excavation, or other structure, project, development or improvement is situated in all cases in which the contract is awarded by the state, or any public body thereof, and shall be held to mean the limits of the county, city and county, city, town, township, district or other political subdivisions on whose behalf the contract is awarded in all other cases. The term "general prevailing rate of per diem wages" shall be the rate determined upon as such rate by the public body awarding the contract, or authorizing the work, whose decision in the matter shall be final. Nothing in this act, however, shall be construed to prohibit the payment to any laborer, workman or mechanic employed on any public work as aforesaid of more than the said general prevailing rate of wages, nor shall anything in this act be construed to permit any overtime work in violation of section 653c of the Penal Code.

**Penalty for Violation of Act a Misdemeanor.**

SEC. 5. Any officer, agent or representative of the State of California, or of any political subdivision, district or municipality thereof, who wilfully shall violate, or omit to comply with, any of the provisions of this act, and any contractor or subcontractor, or agent or representative thereof, doing public work as aforesaid, who shall neglect to keep, or cause to be kept, an accurate record of the names, occupation and actual wages paid to each laborer, workman and mechanic employed by him, in connection with the said public work or who shall refuse to allow access to same at any reasonable hour to any person authorized to inspect same under this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

**Saving Clause.**

SEC. 6. If any section, sentence, clause or part of this act, is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this act. The Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this act, and each section, sentence, clause, or part thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more sections, sentences, clauses, or parts be declared unconstitutional.

The act entitled "An act fixing the minimum rate of compensation for labor on public work," approved March 9, 1897, Stats. 1897, p. 90, was repealed by Stats. 1931, p. 909.

## *Penal Code, Sec. 653c*

**Hours of Labor on Public Works.**

The time of service of any laborer, workman, or mechanic employed upon any of the public works of the State of California, or of any political subdivision or district thereof, or upon work done for or by the authority of said state, or any county, city and county, city, town, township, district or any other political subdivision thereof, whether said work is done by contract or otherwise, is hereby limited and restricted to eight hours during any one calendar day; and it shall be unlawful for any officer or agent of said state, or of any political subdivision or district thereof, or for any contractor or subcontractor doing work under contract upon any public works aforesaid, who employs, or who directs or controls the work of any laborer, workman, or mechanic, employed as herein aforesaid, to require or permit such laborer, workman, or mechanic, to labor more than eight hours during any one calendar day, except in cases of extraordinary emergency, caused by fire, flood, or danger to life or property or except to work upon public military or naval defenses or works in time of war; provided, however, that within thirty days after any employee is permitted to work over eight hours in one calendar day due to such an extraordinary emergency, the contractor doing the work, or his duly authorized agent, shall file with the officer, board or commission awarding the contract a report, verified by his oath, setting forth the nature of the said emergency, which report shall contain the name of the said worker and the hours worked by him on the said day, and failure to file the said report within the said time shall be prima facie evidence that no extraordinary emergency existed. Such contractor and each subcontractor shall also keep an accurate record showing the names and actual hours worked of all workers employed by him, in connection with the said public work, which record shall be open at all reasonable hours to the inspection of the officer, board or commission awarding the contract, or their deputies or agents, and to the chief of the division of labor statistics and law enforcement of the department of industrial relations, his deputies or agents.

Any officer or agent of the State of California, or of any political subdivision or district thereof, making or awarding, as such officer or agent, any contract, the execution of which involves or may involve the employment of any laborer, workman, or mechanic upon any of the public works, or upon any work herein mentioned, shall cause to be inserted therein a stipulation which shall provide that the contractor to whom said contract is awarded shall forfeit as a penalty, to the state or political subdivision or district in whose behalf the contract is made and awarded, ten dollars for each laborer, workman, or mechanic employed, in the execution of said contract, by him, or by any subcontractor under him, upon any of the public works, or upon any work herein mentioned, for each calendar day during which such laborer, workman or mechanic is required or permitted to labor more than eight hours in violation of the provisions of this section, and it shall be the duty of such officer or agent to take cognizance of all violations of the provisions of this section committed in the course of the execution of said contract, and to report the same to the representative of the state or political subdivision or district, party to the contract, authorized to pay to the contractor moneys becoming due to him under said contract, and said representative, when making payments of moneys thus due, shall withhold and retain therefrom all sums and amounts which shall have been forfeited pursuant to the herein said stipulation, and the terms of this act; provided, however, that no sum shall be so withheld, retained or forfeited, except from the final payment, without a full investigation by either the division of labor statistics and law enforcement of the state department of industrial relations or by said awarding body; and provided, further, that in all cases of contracts with assessment or improvement districts where the full payment is made in the form of a single warrant, or other evidence of full payment, after the completion and acceptance of the work, the awarding body shall accept from the contractor in cash a sum equal to, and in lieu of, any amount required to be withheld or retained under the provisions of this section, and said awarding body shall then release the final warrant or payment in full. It shall be lawful for any contractor to withhold from any subcontractor under him sufficient sums to cover any penalties withheld from him by the awarding body on account of the said subcontractor's failure to comply with the terms of this act, and if payment has already been made to him the contractor may recover from him the amount of the penalty or forfeiture in a suit at law.

Any officer, agent or representative of the State of California, or of any political subdivision or district thereof, who shall violate, or omit to comply with, any of the provisions of this section, and any contractor or subcontractor, or agent or representative thereof, doing public work as aforesaid, who shall neglect to keep an accurate record of the names and actual hours worked by the workers employed by him, in connection with the said public work, or who shall refuse to allow access to same at any reasonable hour to any person authorized to inspect same under this section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Work done for irrigation, utility, reclamation and improvement districts, and other districts of this type, as well as street, sewer or other improvement work done under the direction and supervision of the state, or of any political subdivision or district thereof, whether such political subdivision or district operates under a freeholders' charter heretofore or hereafter approved or not, shall be held to come under the provisions of this section; provided, however, that nothing in this section shall apply to the operation of the irrigation or drainage system of any irrigation or reclamation district. (Amended, Stats. 1931, p. 2430.)

This section does not apply to city firemen.
*Danielsen* vs. *City of Bakersfield,* 184 Cal. 262, 193 Pac. 242.

### *Penal Code, Sec. 653d*

**Retention of Wages.**

Every person who employs laborers upon public works, and who takes, keeps, or receives for his own use any part or portion of the wages due to any such laborer or laborers from the state or municipal corporation or district for which such work is done is guilty of a felony. (Stats. 1927, p. 897.)

## 9. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTIES

### *Political Code, Sec. 4024*

Every county, township or district officer, except a supervisor or judicial officer, and every marshal of municipal court or clerk of municipal court, may appoint as many deputies as may be necessary for the prompt and faithful discharge of the duties of his office. Such appointment must be made in writing, and filed in the office of the county clerk, and a copy thereof, in the case of such deputies receiving compensation for their official duties, filed in the office of the county auditor. Until such appointment is so made and filed, and the copy thereof, when herein required, is so filed, and until such deputy shall have taken the oath of office, no one shall be or act as such deputy. Upon the revocation of the appointment of any such deputy, such revocation must be made and filed in the same manner as is herein provided for the making and filing of his appointment. (Amended, Stats. 1931, p. 1889.)

## 10. PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS ON OFFICIAL BONDS

*Sec. 1 of act to authorize certain agencies to pay premiums on official bonds*

(Approved March 25, 1903, Stats. 1903, p. 476; amended, Stats. 1931, p. 1391.)

The premium or charge for bonds given by surety companies for state officials, county officials, township officials, school district officials, other special district officials, city officials, or city and county officials, or the deputies, clerks, assistants or subordinate officers of said officials shall be paid by the state, county, school district, other special district, city, or city and county, respectively; provided, that no premium or charge shall exceed one-half of one per cent per annum on the amount of such bond; and provided, further, that this act shall not apply to notaries public; and provided, further, that in cases of township officials the premium shall be paid by the county in which the township is situate and provided, further, that the payment of premiums for the official bonds of deputies, clerks, assistants or subordinate officers of county officers shall not be a county charge unless the amount fixed for such bond has been approved by the board of supervisors.

*County of San Luis Obispo* vs. *Smith*, 21 Cal. App. 55, 130 Pac. 858; *County of San Luis Obispo* vs. *Murphy*, 162 Cal. 588, 123 Pac. 808.

## 11. FUNDS OF DISSOLVED IRRIGATION DISTRICT SUBJECT TO ESCHEAT

*Code Civil Procedure, Sec. 1274b*

Whenever any money in litigation in any superior or inferior court, or any excess fees or other money deposited in connection with such litigation, has been or shall be paid into the county treasury, or any money has come or shall come into the hands of a county treasurer as ex officio treasurer of a dissolved irrigation district, and three years thereafter it is made to appear to the satisfaction of the court or judge, by affidavit or by testimony taken in open court, that said money has not been and can not be paid out because the owner thereof can not be found, the court or judge must direct that such money be deposited in the state treasury for the benefit of the owner thereof or his legal representative, to be paid to him whenever, within five years after such deposit, proof to the satisfaction of the state controller and the state treasurer is produced that he is entitled thereto. When so claimed, an affidavit of the claimant setting forth the facts establishing his ownership, and the joint order of the controller and the treasurer must be filed by the treasurer as his voucher, and the amount of the claim paid to the owner or his legal representative on the filing of the proper receipt. If no one claims the amount as herein provided, the money devolves and escheats to the people of the State of California and shall be placed by the state treasurer in the school fund. (Amended, Stats. 1931, p. 1955.)

## 12. PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR CITY TO BE PREPARED BY PUBLIC AGENCY

*An act to provide for work in and upon streets, avenues, lanes, alleys, courts, places and sidewalks within municipalities, and upon property and rights of way owned by municipalities or of which a municipality has possession and the right of use under the provisions of section 14 of article I of the constitution, etc.*

(Approved April 7, 1911, Stats. 1911, p. 730; amended, Stats. 1931, p. 1939.)

Sec. 4½. In every case where the work proposed to be done includes the laying of conduits, pipes, hydrants, or any appliance for the supplying or distributing of a domestic water supply, and the distribution of such domestic water supply in the territory in which the improvement is contemplated is under the management and control of a municipal water district, a municipal utility district, a public utility district, a metropolitan water district, or any public agency other than the city or municipality ordering any work done or improvement to be made which is authorized by this act, the said conduits, pipes, hydrants, or other appurtenances for supplying or distributing such domestic water supply shall be installed under the following proceedings, which must be taken prior to the adoption of the resolution of intention, to wit:

Before requiring the plans, specifications and estimates provided for in section 8 of this act the city council shall pass a resolution requesting the public agency having charge of the supplying and distribution of the domestic water supply in the district about to be improved to furnish to the city council plans and specifications for adequate and appropriate conduits, pipes, hydrants and other appurtenances necessary for that purpose. It shall thereupon become the duty of such public agency to furnish said plans and specifications so required, and said plans and specifications shall be submitted to the city council for its approval. The city council may adopt said plans and specifications, but may not modify or change the same except with the consent of the public agency furnishing said plans and specifications, and if no agreement can be reached the said conduits, pipes and other appurtenances for supplying said water shall be omitted from the contemplated improvement. If the said plans and specifications are adopted by the city council it shall be the duty of the city engineer to incorporate said plans and specifications in the plans and specifications furnished by him to the city council, as required by section 8 of this act, and the said plans and specifications shall thereupon be deemed incorporated in the plans and specifications for doing the work, and the public agency which supplies said plans and specifications may at all times maintain an inspector over the work and improvement to see that the plans and specifications which it has furnished have been compiled with, and the cost of such inspection shall form a part of the incidental expenses of the work and be incorporated in the assessment as a part thereof.

After the work has been completed and accepted, the said pipes, conduits and other appliances for supplying or distributing water so installed shall be and become a part of the system of the said public agency so supplying the water, and shall at all times thereafter be used, operated, maintained, and managed by it as a part of such system. (Added, Stats. 1931, p. 1939.)

## 13. NEGLIGENT OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

### *Civil Code, Sec. 1714½*

**Irrigation Districts, Etc., Liable for.**

Hereafter the state, and every county, city and county, municipal corporation, the state compensation insurance fund, irrigation district, school district, district established by law and political subdivision of the state owning any motor vehicle shall be responsible to every person who sustains any damage by reason of death, or injury to person or property as the result of the negligent operation of any said motor vehicle by an officer, agent, or employee or as the result of the negligent operation of any other motor vehicle by any officer, agent or employee when acting within the scope of his office, agency or employment; and such person may sue the state, county, city and county, municipal corporation, the state compensation insurance fund, irrigation district, school district, district established by law and political subdivision of the state, as the case may be, in any court of competent jurisdiction in this state in the manner directed by law. In every case where a recovery is had under the provisions of this section against the state, any county, city and county, municipal corporation, the state compensation insurance fund, irrigation district, school district, district established by law and political subdivision of the state, then the state, or the county or city and county, municipal corporation, the state compensation insurance fund, irrigation district, school district, district established by law and political subdivision of the state shall be subrogated to all the rights of the person injured, against the officer, agent or employee, as the case may be, and may recover from such officer, agent or employee, the total amount of any judgment and costs recovered against the state, county, city and county, municipal corporation, the state compensation insurance fund, irrigation district, school district, district established by law and political subdivision of the state in such case, together with costs therein.

And the state, county, city and county, municipal corporation, the state compensation insurance fund, irrigation district, school district, district established by law and political subdivision of the state may insure their liability in any insurance company authorized to transact the business of such insurance in the State of California, and the premium for such insurance shall be a proper charge against the respective general fund of the state, county, city and county, municipal corporation, the state compensation insurance fund, irrigation district, school district, district established by law and political subdivision of the state, as the case may be. (Amended, Stats. 1931, p. 168.)

### *Workmen's Compensation Insurance and Safety Act, Sec. 46*

**Quasi Public Corporations May Insure Against Liability.**

The state and each county, city and county, city, school district or other public corporation or quasi public corporation within the state not including, however, any public utility corporation, may insure against its liability for compensation with the state compensation insurance fund and not with any other insurance carrier unless such fund shall refuse to accept the risk when the application for insurance is made, and the premium therefor shall be a proper charge against the general fund of each such political subdivision of the state. (Amended, Stats. 1931, p. 200.)

## CHAPTER II

# CALIFORNIA DISTRICTS SECURITIES COMMISSION ACT AND RELATED LAWS

**Preliminary Statement.**

The California Irrigation District Act provides that before the board of directors of the district may call an election for the issuance of bonds for the purpose of constructing or acquiring works or other property, it must submit the plans and estimate of cost of such proposed works or property and the amount of bonds it desires to issue to the California district securities commission for a report on the feasibility of the project. The California districts securities commission was created by the legislature in 1931 and is composed of the attorney general, state superintendent of banks, state engineer, and two additional members appointed by the governor. This commission succeeded the irrigation district bond certification commission created in 1911. Originally this commission was authorized only to pass on bond issues after they had been voted, but the law creating the commission was revised in 1913 and has been amended a number of times since and was repealed in 1931 in the enactment of the California districts securities commission. The activities of the securities commission in connection with the issuance of bonds by irrigation districts are covered by sections 30 to 32e of the California Irrigation District Act and by the provisions of the California Districts Securities Commission Act itself.

The Water Storage District Act, California Water Conservation District Act, Water District Act and Water Conservation District Act of 1929 all provide for the submission of their bond issues to the district securities commission, for certification as legal investments for trust funds, public funds, etc.

## 1. CALIFORNIA DISTRICTS SECURITIES COMMISSION ACT

*An act creating the California districts securities commission, providing for its appointment, and defining its duties and powers, relating to bonds of irrigation districts, providing under what circumstances such bonds shall be legal investments for funds of banks, insurance companies and trust companies, trust funds, state school funds and any money or funds which may now or hereafter be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school districts or municipalities, and providing under what circumstances the use of bonds of irrigation districts as security for the performance of any act may be authorized, providing that certain districts may be declared insolvent, and providing for the administration of insolvent districts, making an appropriation, to carry out the purposes of the act, and repealing* *an act entitled "An act relating to bonds of irrigation districts, providing under what circumstances such bonds shall be legal investments for funds of banks, insurance companies and trust companies, trust funds, state school funds and any money or funds which may now or hereafter be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school districts or municipalities, and providing under what circumstances the use of bonds of irrigation districts as security for the performance of any act may be authorized," approved June 13, 1913, and as amended.*

(Approved June 19, 1931, Stats. 1931, p. 2263.)

### California Districts Securities Commission Created—Personnel—Compensation.

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a commission to be known as and designated the California districts securities commission, which commission shall consist of five members as follows: the attorney general, the state engineer, the superintendent of banks, and two other members to be appointed by the governor, each of whom at the time of his appointment shall be one who has had at least five years actual experience in the affairs of an irrigation district in this state as an officer or employee. The terms of office of the two members appointed by the governor shall be four years from the date of their appointment, and until their successors are appointed. Each member of the board other than the attorney general, the state engineer and the superintendent of banks shall be entitled to receive as compensation as such member, ten dollars for each day while on official business of the commission and all members shall be entitled to receive his actual necessary expenses while on such official business.

### "District" Means "Irrigation District."

SEC. 2. The words "district" or "districts" wherever used herein for all purposes hereof, shall be deemed to mean irrigation districts organized under the laws of this state.

### Resolution Declaring Bonds Available for Certification.

SEC. 3. Whenever the governing board of any district organized and existing under and pursuant to the laws of the State of California shall by resolution declare that it deems it desirable that any contemplated or outstanding bonds of said district, including any of its bonds authorized but not sold, shall be made available for the purposes provided for in section 9 of this act, the said board shall thereupon file a certified copy of such resolution with the commission herein provided for.

### Report of Commission—Limitation Upon Approval of Bonds for Certification.

SEC. 4. Such commission, upon receipt of a certified copy of such resolution, shall, without delay, make or cause to be made an investigation of the affairs of the district and report thereon in writing. If no bonds of the district shall have theretofore been certified as provided in this act or under the provisions of "An act relating to bonds of irrigation districts, providing under what circumstances such bonds shall be legal investments for funds of banks, insurance companies and trust companies, trust funds, state school funds and any money or funds which may now or hereafter be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school districts or municipalities, and providing under what circumstances the use of bonds of irrigation districts as security for the performance of any act may be authorized.'' Approved June 13, 1913, or acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, such report shall be made upon each and every detail that may in the opinion of the commission have any bearing upon the success or failure of the project about to be undertaken by the district, and every fact which will aid the commission in determining the feasibility and economic soundness of such project. If bonds of the district shall have theretofore been so certified then such report shall be upon the following points:

(a) The supply of water available for the project and the right of the district to so much water as may be needed.

(b) The nature of the soil as to its fertility and susceptibility to irrigation, the probable amount of water needed for its irrigation and the probable need of drainage.

(c) The feasibility of the district's irrigation system and of the specific project for which the bonds under consideration are desired or have been used, whether such system and project be constructed, projected or partially completed.

In either case the commission shall estimate the reasonable value of the water, water rights, canals, reservoirs, reservoir sites and irrigation and power works and other property owned by the district or to be acquired or constructed with the proceeds of the bonds proposed to be issued by said district and the reasonable value of lands included within the boundaries of the district.

No bond issue of any district shall be approved for certification as provided in this act which together with any other outstanding bonds of such district including bonds authorized but not sold exceeds sixty per centum of the aggregate value of the water, water rights, canals, reservoirs, reservoir sites, irrigation and power works and other property owned by the district or to be acquired or constructed with the proceeds of the bonds proposed to be issued by said district, and the reasonable value of the lands within the boundary of the district.

### Report Filed With Controller—If Bonds Approved Entitled to Be Certified—Duties of Controller.

Sec. 5. The written report of the investigation herein provided for shall be filed in the office of the state controller, and a copy of said report shall be forwarded by the commission to the secretary of the district for which the investigation shall have been made, and if said commission shall have found, as set out in said report, that the project is economically sound and feasible, the bonds of such district, as described and enumerated in said report filed with the state controller, shall be certified by the state controller, as hereinafter provided for. If the commission shall be notified by the board of any district whose project has been found in such report to be feasible, that the district has issued bonds, and the commission shall find that said bonds are for any project or projects approved in such report, the commission shall prepare and file with the state controller a supplementary report giving the numbers, date or dates of issue and denominations of said bonds, which shall then be entitled to certification by the state controller as hereinafter provided for. Subsequent issues of bonds may be made available for the purposes specified in this act upon like proceedings by said district, but, after any of the bonds of a district have been enumerated and described as entitled to certification by the state controller as herein provided for, it shall be unlawful for that district to issue bonds that will not be entitled to such certification. It is hereby made the duty of the state controller to provide for filing and preserving the reports mentioned in this section and, also, to make, keep and preserve a record of the bonds certified by him in accordance with the provisions of section 8 of this act, including the date of certification, the legal title of the district, the number of each bond, its par value, the date of its issue and that of its maturity.

### When Bonds Certified Expenditures From Proceeds to Be Supervised by Commission—Inspections by State Engineer.

Sec. 6. Whenever the bonds of any district have been certified as provided in this act, no expenditures shall be made from the proceeds of such bonds, nor shall any liability to be met from such proceeds be incurred, until there shall have been filed with and approved by said commission such a schedule of proposed expenditures of such proceeds as may be necessary to set forth to the satisfaction of said commission the plan proposed for carrying out the purposes for which said bonds were authorized, or such of said purposes as the district may, at the time of filing such schedule, desire to proceed with; and no expenditures from the proceeds of said bonds shall be made for any purpose not specified in such approved schedule or for any approved purpose in excess of the amount allowed therefor in such schedule without the consent of said commission; nor shall any expense of any kind be incurred in excess of money actually provided by levy of assessment or otherwise except as otherwise provided by law. During the progress of any work to be paid for from the proceeds of any bond issue certified as in this act provided, the state engineer on behalf of the commission herein authorized, shall make from time to time such inspection of the work as may be necessary to enable the said engineer to know that the plans approved by the commission are being carried out without material modification unless such modification has been approved by said state engineer.

### Works Constructed Over Period of Years—Bonds May Be Certified but Sale of All or Portion Must Be Approved by Commission.

Sec. 7. Whenever the survey, examination, drawings and plans of a district, and the estimate of cost based thereon, shall provide that the works necessary for a completed project shall be constructed progressively over a period of years in accordance with a plan or schedule adopted by resolution of the board of the district, the bonds so voted and certified, or any portion of them, shall only be sold after prior written approval of the commission.

### Certification by Controller—Form of Certificate.

Sec. 8. Whenever any bond of a district organized and existing as aforesaid, including any bond authorized in any such district but not sold, which shall be eligible to certification by the state controller under section 5 of this act, shall be presented to the state controller, he shall cause to be attached thereto a certificate in substanially the following form:

Sacramento, Cal. ------ (insert date) I, ------, controller of the State of California, do hereby certify that the within bond, No. ---- - of issue No. ------ of the ------ district, issued ------ (insert date), is, in accordance with an act of the Legislature of California approved ------, a legal investment for all trust funds and for the funds of all insurance companies, banks, both commercial and savings, trust companies, the state school funds and any funds which may be invested in county, municipal or school district bonds, and it may be deposited as security for the performance of any act whenever the bonds of any county, city, city and county, or school district may be so deposited, it being entitled to such privileges by virtue of an examination by the California districts securities commission of the State of California in pursuance of said act. The within bond may also, according to the constitution of the State of California, be used as security for the deposit of public money in banks in said state.

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Controller of State of California

In case of a change in the constitution or any of the laws of this state relating to the bonds of a district, or any difference therein the state controller shall, if necessary, modify the above certificate so that it shall conform to the facts.

A facsimile of the controller's signature, printed or otherwise, impressed upon said certificate shall be a sufficient signing thereof; provided, that the imprint of the controller's seal thereon shall appear upon both the certificate and the bond over and through the printed signature.

### Certified Bonds Are Legal Investments for Public Funds, Etc.

SEC. 9. All bonds certified in accordance with the terms of this act shall be legal investments for all trust funds, and for the funds of all insurance companies, banks, both commercial and savings, and trust companies and for the state school funds and whenever any money or funds may, by law now or hereafter enacted, be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school district, or municipalities in the State of California, such money or funds may be invested in the said bonds of such districts, and whenever bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school districts or municipalities may by any law now or hereafter enacted be used as security for the performance of any act, bonds of districts under the limitations in this act provided may be so used. This act is intended to be and shall be considered the latest enactment upon the matters herein contained, and any and all acts in conflict with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

### Powers of Commission—Annual Reports.

SEC. 10. The commission shall have power to examine the books and records of any district. It shall also prescribe a form of annual reports of districts, and a copy of each report shall be filed with the secretary of the district and a copy in the office of the commission.

### Upon Default District May Be Declared Insolvent—Controlled by Commission—May Order Refunding Bonds, Etc.

Sec. 11. Whenever any district shall have been in default in the payment of any of its bonds or any interest thereon for a period of one year, any holder of bonds of the said district may request in writing, the commission to take the necessary steps to have the district declared insolvent. Upon receipt of such written request the commission shall make such an investigation of the affairs of the district as it may deem proper, and for which funds are available and after such investigation, if in the judgment of the commission it would be for the best interests of the district and of the holders of bonds that the said district be declared insolvent, the commission shall file a petition in the superior court in the county in which the office of the district is located, praying said court to declare said district insolvent. The court shall set a time for hearing said petition, and written notice of such hearing shall be served upon the president of the board of directors of the district at least ten days before the time set for said hearing. At said hearing the court shall hear said petition and all competent evidence offered in support thereof, and shall hear any and all objections to said petition, and all competent evidence offered in support of said objections. The court shall then make an order granting or denying said petition. If said petition be granted, said order shall set forth the amount of bonds or interest coupons, or both, which have been presented for payment and which have not been paid, together with the amount then due, and shall declare said district to be insolvent, and the same shall thereafter be under the control and direction of the commission, to the extent of, and in accordance with the provisions of this act. The commission shall have the power to order refunding bonds of the district issued in such amounts, not exceeding however, the amount of bonds then outstanding, and for such term or terms, not exceeding fifty years, as said commission may deem proper without vote of the electors of said district, and the district may, with the approval of the commission, sell or exchange said refunding bonds, or any of them for any of the outstanding bonds of the district. The commission shall have power to negotiate with outstanding owners or holders of the bonds, or other evidences of indebtedness, or any of them, of the district, for the purpose of compromising or adjusting the amount of such indebtedness, and it is hereby empowered to make such compromises or adjustments. If there shall be in the district treasury at any time any funds available for the payment of bonds or interest thereon, but said amount shall not be sufficient to pay all outstanding bonds or interest coupons then due, the district may hold such funds until they shall amount to at least twenty per cent of the total amount due on bonds and coupons and shall then apportion and pay the available money so that the same percentage may be paid on all such due and unpaid bonds and coupons, and in levying the annual assessment of the district the board may, with the consent of the commission, and notwithstanding any other provision of law governing such district, levy for the purpose of providing for the payment of principal or interest on bonds only such amount as in the judgment of said commission it will be possible for the landowner in said district to pay. Said board may establish a system of tolls and charges for the use of water for irrigation and domestic purposes and all sums received from the collection of such tolls and charges shall be applied to the operation and maintenance of the works of the district and to its general expenses during the year in which the water so charged is delivered. If there be any surplus after such expenses have been paid, such surplus shall be deposited in the bond interest or bond principal fund, but said district shall not be required to pay any bond or interest coupon with any funds which said board, with the approval of the commission, may determine shall be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the works of the district and its general expenses, it being the purpose of this provision to maintain and keep in operation the works of the district in order that thereby the lands of the district may be made and kept productive for the best interest of the state.

### Commission May Negotiate With Bondholders for Compromise.

Sec. 12. Upon the written request of the board of directors of any district, either before or after default in the payment of interest on its bonds, or any of the principal thereof, the commission may act for the district in negotiating with the holders of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness of the district, for the purpose of compromising or adjusting such indebtedness.

### Employees of Commission—Compensation of.

Sec. 13. The commission shall establish an office and shall select one of their number as chairman, and shall appoint an executive secretary, and shall from time to time appoint such other employees as they may deem necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. The compensation of all employees shall be fixed by the commission with the approval of the department of finance.

### Commission to Adopt Rules and Regulations—Meetings.

Sec. 14. The commission shall adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its affairs as it may deem proper, but which shall not be in conflict with any of the provisions of this act, or any other act of the Legislature, and in such rules shall fix the time for regular meetings of the commission, which regular meetings shall be held at the office of the commission.

### Commission Succeeds to Duty and Jurisdiction of Former Bond Commission.

Sec. 15. The California district securities commission herein provided for shall succeed to and is hereby vested with all the duties, powers, purposes, responsibilities and jurisdiction of the California bond certification commission, being the commission authorized by law to approve bonds of irrigation districts for certification, and also designated as the state irrigation district bond commission, and whenever by the provisions of any statute or law now in force or that may hereafter be enacted, a duty or jurisdiction is imposed or authority conferred upon said California bond certification commission, such duty, jurisdiction and authority are hereby imposed upon and transferred to the said California districts securities commission with the same force and effect as though the title of said California districts securities commission had been specifically set forth and named therein in lieu of the name of said California bond certification commission.

### Investigation and Report—Contribution of Funds.

SEC. 16. Any district requesting the commission to make any investigation or report authorized by this act shall contribute such funds of the district to the commission for such purposes as may be agreed upon between said district and the commission; provided, that the benefit of any services that may have been performed and any data that may have been obtained by any member of said commission or any other public official in pursuance of the requirements of any law other than this act, shall be available for the use of the commission herein provided for without charge to the district whose affairs are under investigation. The commission is authorized to accept contributions from any source to pay the cost of making investigations or reports under the provisions of this act.

### Title of Act.

SEC. 17. This act may be referred to in any action, proceeding or legislative enactment as "the California districts securities commission act."

### Bond Commission Act Repealed.

SEC. 18. The act entitled, "An act relating to bonds of irrigation districts, providing under what circumstances such bonds shall be legal investments for funds of banks, insurance companies and trust companies, trust funds, state school funds and any money or funds which may now or hereafter be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school districts or municipalities, and providing under what circumstances the use of bonds of irrigation districts as security for the performance of any act may be authorized," approved June 13, 1913, as amended, is hereby repealed. This repeal does not affect any right existing or accrued nor the validity of any bonds heretofore issued in accordance with the provisions of the act hereby repealed.

### Saving Clause.

SEC. 19. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this act is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or unenforceable, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act. The Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this act and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase hereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more of the sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or unenforceable.

### Appropriation Made for Purposes of Act.

SEC. 20. Out of any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of forty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to be expended in accordance with law to carry out the purposes of this act.

## 2. BONDS EXEMPT FROM TAXATION

*State Constitution, Article XIII, Sec. 1¾*

All bonds hereafter issued by the State of California, or by any county, city and county, municipal corporation, or district (including school, reclamation, and irrigation districts) within said state, shall be free and exempt from taxation. (New section adopted November 4, 1902.)

See 26 R. C. L. 334.

## 3. PAYMENT OF BONDS

*State Constitution, Article XI, Sec. 13½*

Any county, city and county, city, town, municipality, irrigation district, or other public corporation, issuing bonds under the laws of the state, is hereby authorized and empowered to make said bonds and the interest thereon payable at any place or places within or outside of the United States, and in any money, domestic or foreign, designated in said bonds. (Amendment adopted November 3, 1914.)

*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *White,* 186 Cal. 183, 198 Pac. 1060.

## 4. BONDS SECURITY FOR COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL BANK DEPOSITS

*An act to authorize and control the deposit in banks of money belonging to or in the custody of any county, city and county, city, town, municipality or other political subdivision within this state, and to repeal all acts or parts of acts in conflict with this act.*

(Approved May 24, 1927, Stats. 1927, p. 1388; amended, Stats. 1931, p. 2223.)

SEC. 4. For the security of inactive deposits there shall be deposited with such treasurer treasury notes or bonds of the United States, or of this state or of any county, city and county, city, town, metropolitan water district, municipal utility district, municipal water district, bridge and highway district, flood control district, school district or irrigation district within this state, which bonds shall be approved by the treasurer and attorney of the county, city and county, city, town, municipality or other political subdivision. The market value of the bonds furnished shall be at least ten per cent in excess of the amount of the deposit secured thereby; but the amount of the deposit shall in no case exceed the face value of the bonds furnished as security therefor. For the security of active deposits, there shall be deposited with such treasurer, treasury notes or bonds of the United States or of this state, or of any county, city and county, city, town, metropolitan water district, municipal utility district, municipal water district, bridge and highway district, flood control district, school district or irrigation district within this state, or the surety bond or bonds of any corporation or corporations qualified to act as sole surety on bonds or undertakings required by the laws of this state; provided, that the furnishing of surety bonds shall be optional with the treasurer; provided, however, that when there is no qualified bank within the county owning the money, or the county within which the city, town, metropolitan water district, municipal utility district, municipal water district, bridge and highway district, flood control district, school district or irrigation district owning the money is situated requesting such active deposit, and offering any of the classes of securities, including surety bonds, herein provided for such deposits, then no such surety bond or notes or bonds shall be accepted as security for active deposit in banks outside of such county while any notes or bonds of the United States, or of this state, or of any county, city and county, city, town, metropolitan water district, municipal utility district, municipal water district, bridge and highway district, flood control district, school district or irrigation district within the state shall be offered as security for active deposits by any bank in the state qualified to accept such deposits; provided, further, that the penalty or the aggregate of the penalties of any surety bond or bonds covering deposits in any one bank given by any surety company shall not exceed ten per cent of the capital and surplus of such company, according to the statement thereof contained in the last preceding report issued by the United States treasury department, but in fixing such limit there shall be deducted from such penalty the amount of any reinsurance the terms of which inure directly to the county, city and county, city, town, municipality or other political subdivision making the deposit, placed with a company qualified to execute bonds hereunder within the limits applicable to said company and evidence of such reinsurance shall be furnished to the treasurer making the deposits within twenty days after the date of such surety bond.

Such securities shall be approved by the treasurer and attorney of such county, city and county, city, town, municipality or other political subdivision to any amount in value at least ten per cent in excess of the amount of the deposit with such bank or banks. No surety bond shall be accepted from any surety company, unless said company shall be approved by the insurance commissioner of the state as a company possessing the qualifications herein required to secure the deposit of any funds, and it shall be the duty of said commissioner to issue such certificate on demand of the proper officer of the county, city and county, city, town, metropolitan water district, municipal utility district, municipal water district, bridge and highway district, flood control district, school district or irrigation district showing the qualifications of such companies; and, unless said company shall also hold a certificate of authority from the United States treasury department as being acceptable as a surety on federal bonds. The form of bonds required under this act shall be approved by the attorney for such county or municipality.

See also Stats. 1927, p. 96, amending Stats. 1923, p. 26.

## 5. BONDS SECURITY FOR STATE BANK DEPOSITS

*An act to authorize and control the deposit in banks of money belonging to or in the custody of the state and to repeal all acts or parts of acts in conflict with this act.*

(Approved April 12, 1923, Stats. 1923, p. 21; amended Stats. 1927, p. 98.)

* * * * * * *

SEC. 4. For the security of inactive deposits, there shall be deposited with the treasurer treasury notes or bonds of the United States, or of this state or of any county, city and county, city, town, municipal utility district, flood control district, school district, or irrigation district within this state, which bonds shall be approved by the governor, controller and treasurer, to an amount in value at least ten per cent in excess of the amount of the deposit with such bank or banks. For the security of active deposits, there shall be deposited with the treasurer treasury notes or bonds of the United States or of this state or of any county, city and county, city, town, municipal utility district, flood control district, school district or irrigation district within this state, or the surety bond or bonds of any corporation or corporations qualified to act as sole surety on bonds or undertakings required by the laws of this state; provided, that the penalty or the aggregate of the penalties of any surety bond or bonds covering deposits in any one bank given by any surety company shall not exceed ten per cent of the capital and surplus of such company, according to the statement thereof contained in the last preceding report issued by the United States treasury department, but in fixing such limit there shall be deducted from such penalty the amount of any reinsurance the terms of which inure directly to the State of California, placed with a company qualified to execute bonds hereunder within the limits applicable to said company, and evidence of which reinsurance shall be furnished to the treasurer within twenty days after the date of such surety bond. Such securities shall be approved by the governor, controller and treasurer to an amount in value at least ten per cent in excess of the amount of the deposit with such bank or banks. No surety bond shall be accepted from any surety company, unless said company shal be approved by the insurance commissioner of the state as a company possessing the qualifications herein required to secure deposit of state funds, and it shall be the duty of said commissioner to issue such certificate on demand of the state treasurer showing the qualifications of such companies; and, unless said company shall also hold a certificate of authority from the United States treasury department as being acceptable as a surety on federal bonds. The form of bonds required under this act shall be prescribed by the attorney general of the state. (Stats. 1927, p. 98.)

## 6. BOND VALIDATING ACTS

### BONDS AND REFUNDING BONDS OF IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AND PROCEEDINGS VALIDATED

### VALIDATING ACT OF 1925

*An act to validate certain bonds of certain irrigation districts and all proceedings relative thereto, and to provide for the levy and collection of taxes to pay the principal and interest on such bonds.*

(Approved May 19, 1925; Stats. 1925, p. 373.)

**Bonds and Proceedings Validated.**

Section 1. Whenever prior to the taking effect of this act proceedings have been taken by any irrigation district organized or purported to be organized under any law or laws of this state, for the issuing and selling of bonds of such district, for any purpose or purposes, all the acts and proceedings of the board of trustees of such district and all of the acts of the board of supervisors of the county or counties in which such district or any part thereof is situated and all of the acts of all public officers in connection therewith leading up to and including the issuance of such bonds if they have hitherto been issued or sold, and all such acts and proceedings heretofore had although the bonds are not yet issued or sold, are hereby legalized, ratified, confirmed and validated to all intents and purposes, and the power of such district to issue such bonds is hereby acknowledged, granted, ratified, confirmed and declared, and the bonds heretofore issued and sold and the bonds heretofore authorized to be issued which may be hereafter issued and sold, are declared to be and shall be, the legal and binding obligations of, and against the district having heretofore issued, or hereafter issuing, such bonds, and the faith and credit of such district is hereby pledged for the prompt payment and redemption of the principal and interest of said bonds.

### Levy and Collection of Assessments for Payment of Principal and Interest.

Sec. 2. For the purpose of paying the interest on such bonds as it becomes due and the principal thereof at maturity, the board of trustees of the district and the board of supervisors of the county or counties in which such irrigation district or any part thereof lies, and the various county officers of the respective counties who are charged with duties in connection with the assessment, levy and collection of taxes, shall have the same powers and shall perform the same duties as are provided by law relative to the assessment, levy and collection of taxes, and custody of funds, for the payment of the principal and interest of bonds of such districts, at the times and in the manner respectively set forth in the respective law or laws authorizing or purporting to authorize the incurring of bonded indebtedness or issuance of bonds by such districts.

### Certain Bonds Not Validated.

Sec. 3. This act shall not operate to legalize the sale hereafter of any bonds of any such district at a price of less than par, nor to legalize any bonds in cases where the question of issuing the same has been submitted to the vote of the qualified electors or of the taxpayers, and has failed to obtain the number of favorable votes required by the particular statute under which the proceedings were taken.

## VALIDATING ACT OF 1931

*An act to validate bonds, including refunding bonds, of irrigation districts and all proceedings relative thereto, and to provide for the levy and collection of taxes to pay the principal and interest on such bonds.*

(Approved April 24, 1931; Stats. 1931, p. 376.)

### Bonds Including Refunding Bonds and Proceedings Validated—Certain Bonds Not Validated.

Section 1. Whenever proceedings have heretofore been taken by any irrigation district organized or existing under any law or laws of this state, for the issuance and sale of bonds, including refunding bonds, of such district for any purpose or purposes, all acts and proceedings of the board of directors of such district and all acts of the board of supervisors of the county or counties in which such district or any part thereof is situated and all acts of public officers in connection therewith leading up to and including the issuance of such bonds, including refunding bonds, if they have hitherto been issued or sold, and all such acts and proceedings heretofore taken if such bonds, including refunding bonds, are not yet issued or sold, are hereby legalized, ratified, confirmed and declared valid to all intents and purposes, and the power of such district to issue such bonds, including such refunding bonds, is hereby ratified, confirmed and declared, and such bonds and refunding bonds heretofore issued and sold are declared to be and shall be, in the form and manner in which such bonds and refunding bonds have been actually issued and delivered, the legal and binding obligations of and against such district, and the bonds and refunding bonds heretofore authorized to be issued which may be hereafter issued and sold are declared to be and shall be the legal and binding obligations of such district, and the full faith and credit of such district is hereby pledged for the prompt payment and redemption of the principal and interest of said bonds, including refunding bonds.

This act shall not be construed to validate any bonds which may have heretofore been declared void by final decree of court.

**Levy and Collection of Assessments for Payment of Principal and Interest.**

SEC. 2. For the purpose of paying the interest on such bonds or refunding bonds as it becomes due and the principal thereof at maturity the board of directors of the district and other officers who are charged with duties in connection with the assessment, levy and collection of taxes, shall have the same powers and shall perform the same duties as are provided by law relative to the assessment, levy and collection of taxes and custody of funds, for the payment of the principal and interest of bonds of such districts, at the times and in the manner respectively set forth in the respective law or laws authorizing or purporting to authorize the incurring of bonded indebtedness or issuance of bonds by such districts and the payment thereof.

The act approved May 25, 1919; Stats. 1919, p. 1004, authorizing irrigation districts to refund outstanding bonded indebtedness was repealed in 1931 (Stats. 1931, p. 121), as was also act approved April 1, 1897 (Stats. 1897, p. 394; amended, Stats. 1901, p. 514), providing for the issue and sale or exchange of refunding bonds of irrigation districts. (See Stats. 1931, p. 121.)

## 7. ISSUANCE OF DUPLICATE BONDS

*An act to provide for the issuance of duplicates of bonds, warrants and other municipal securities which have become defaced or mutilated.*

(Approved February 23, 1907, Stats, 1907, p. 53; amended, Stats. 1927, p. 350.)

**Mutilated Bonds; Duplicates May Be Issued.**

SECTION 1. Mutilated municipal bonds, duplicates may be issued. Whenever it shall be made to appear to the legislative body of any county, city and county, city, town, irrigation district, reclamation district, school district or other municipal corporation, by clear and unequivocal proof, that any bond, warrant, or other evidence of indebtedness of said county, city and county, city, town, irrigation district, reclamation district, school district, or other municipal corporation has, without bad faith upon the part of the owner, been so mutilated or defaced as to impair its value to the owner, and such instrument is capable of being identified by number and description, such legislative body shall, under such regulations and with such restrictions as to time and retention for security or otherwise, as it may prescribe, and upon the conditions hereinafter provided, issue or cause to be issued a duplicate thereof, having the same time to run, bearing like interest, and having the same number as the evidence of indebtedness so proved to have been mutilated or defaced. (Stats. 1927, p. 350.)

### Procedure to Procure Duplicates.

SEC. 2. The owner of such bonds or other evidences of indebtedness desiring to have issued duplicates for the same, shall make a written application therefor to the legislative body of such municipal corporation, setting forth the facts provided by section 1, and shall accompany such request with a deposit of such sum of money as shall be deemed sufficient by such legislative body to cover the cost of printing or lithographing, or otherwise preparing such duplicate, and all other expenses connected with the issuance thereof, and if required by such legislative body, shall also file therewith a bond in such sum as may be required, with good and sufficient sureties, to be approved by such legislative body, with condition to indemnify and save harmless such municipal corporation from any claim upon such mutilated or defaced security. (Stats. 1907, p. 53.)

### Duty of Legislative Body.

SEC. 3. The legislative body of such municipal corporation shall thereupon pass a resolution, setting forth the fact of said application and the compliance with the conditions herein prescribed, and with such further conditions as shall have been required by said legislative body in accordance herewith, and directing the officer or officers who had charge, in the first instance, of causing to be printed, lithographed, or otherwise prepared the original bond, warrant, or other evidence of indebtedness, to cause to be issued a duplicate thereof, as herein provided. Such duplicate bond, warrant, or other evidence of indebtedness shall be signed by the same officers, and issued in all respects as nearly as possible as the original instrument, and when so prepared and issued shall be delivered in exchange for the original bond, warrant, or other evidence of indebtedness; provided, that no exchange shall be made unless such defaced or mutilated bond, together with any coupons thereon for which duplicates shall be issued in accordance with this act, shall be capable of identification, and shall first be surrendered by the owner thereof. When surrendered, the legislative body of such municipal corporation shall cause proper record to be made of the cancellation of such original security, and thereafter the duplicate issued in accordance with the provisions of this act, shall have all the force, effect and validity of the original evidence of indebtedness. (Stats. 1907, p. 53.)

### Time of Taking Effect.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect immediately. (Stats. 1907, p. 54.)

## CHAPTER III

# CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT ACT AND RELATED LAWS

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### Preliminary Statement.

The rapid expansion of irrigation in California has been brought about largely through the organization of irrigation districts under the state law, commonly known as the Wright Act. The Wright Act was originally passed in 1887. Each succeeding Legislature passed amendments of more or less importance, but the fundamental objections to this act were not corrected until 1897. Under the legislative leadership of Judge E. A. Bridgford, a new act was passed which did not alter the essential purport of the law and in many of its provisions was but a slight revision in verbiage of the original act. However, radical changes were made in the procedure for organizing districts and for incurring indebtedness. Although not so designated in the act, it is popularly known by the name of its author.

Many amendments and supplementary acts have been passed to the Bridgford Act by Legislatures since 1901 and particularly since 1909. The more essential of these changes are as follows:

1. Requiring petitions for the formation of irrigation districts to be referred by the board of supervisors of counties to the state engineer for report, and giving the state engineer ninety days in which to "report, make or cause to be made such preliminary investigations as may be practicable, with a view to determining the feasibility of the project proposed to be undertaken."

2. Permitting the organization of districts to be proposed by 500 petitioners, each petitioner, to the number of at least 500, to be an elector residing in the proposed district or the holder of title or evidence of title to land therein.

3. Reducing the number of votes necessary to carry the organization of an irrigation district from two-thirds to a majority of all votes cast.

4. Creating the districts securities commission (in lieu of the bond commission act of 1913), composed of the attorney general, state superintendent of banks and two additional members appointed by the governor. The securities commission must pass on the feasibility of proposed bond issues prior to the calling of a district election for their approval and may recommend the certification of bonds that have been voted, so as to make them legal investments for funds of banks, insurance and trust companies, trusts and state school funds, and so as to permit them to be used as security for the performance of any act the same as bonds of cities, counties, school districts or municipalities. Authority is invested in the commission to act as the state agency,

under the jurisdiction of the superior courts, for the investigation and settlement of the financial affairs of insolvent irrigation districts.

5. Permitting boards of directors of districts to call bond elections to cover expenditures approved by the securities commission, without petition of the landowners, as was necessary from 1897 to 1919, but requiring a two-thirds instead of a majority vote to carry such elections.

6. Providing that any bond issue may be made to mature serially or all at one time, and increasing the maximum period of maturity from 40 to 50 years; providing that bonds are subject to call on any interest payment date prior to their fixed maturity; providing that revenues for bond payments may be based in whole or in part on proceeds derived from contracts for the sale of water, electricity or from any other source than assessments, and that such revenues when so allocated can be used for no other purpose.

There are now seven active irrigation districts that were organized prior to 1897, but none were formed during the years 1897 to 1909. Beginning with the latter year districts have been organized at a rapid rate until now there are 90 active districts in California, comprising a total area of more than 3,400,000 acres. The greater part of this development has occurred since inclusions have been made in the law for state supervision in the organization of districts and in the financing and construction of their projects.

## ACTIVE IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AS OF JULY 1, 1931

| Name of District | County | Year organized | Area, acres | Address of secretary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alpaugh | Tulare | 1915 | 8,175 | Alpaugh |
| Alta | Tulare-Fresno-Kings | 1888 | 129,300 | Dinuba |
| Anderson-Cottonwood | Shasta-Tehama | 1914 | 32,113 | Anderson |
| Banta Carbona | San Joaquin | 1921 | 15,624 | Tracy |
| Bard | Imperial | 1927 | 7,000 | Ross Corner, Yuma, Arizona |
| Baxter Creek | Lassen | 1917 | 9,337 | Susanville |
| Beaumont | Riverside | 1919 | 4,141 | Beaumont |
| Big Springs | Siskiyou | 1927 | 3,570 | Montague |
| Browns Valley | Yuba | 1888 | 42,860 | Browns Valley |
| Butte Valley | Siskiyou | 1920 | 28,686 | Macdoel |
| Byron-Bethany | Contra Costa and San Joaquin | 1919 | 17,175 | Byron |
| Camp Far West | Placer-Yuba | 1924 | 4,089 | Wheatland |
| Carmichael | Sacramento | 1916 | 3,121 | Sacramento |
| Carpenter | Orange | 1927 | 1,328 | Orange |
| Citrus Heights | Sacramento | 1920 | 3,077 | Roseville |
| Compton-Delevan | Colusa | 1920 | 12,652 | San Francisco, 550 Montgomery St. |
| Consolidated | Fresno-Tulare-Kings | 1921 | 149,047 | Selma |
| Corcoran | Kings | 1919 | 51,606 | Corcoran |
| Cordua | Yuba | 1919 | 5,461 | Marysville |
| Deer Creek | Tehama | 1926 | 1,907 | Vina |
| East Contra Costa[1] | Contra Costa | 1926 | 20,200 | Brentwood |
| El Camino | Tehama | 1921 | 7,549 | Gerber |
| El Dorado | El Dorado | 1925 | 30,703 | Placerville |
| El Nido | Merced | 1929 | 9,000 | El Nido |
| Empire West Side | Kings | 1931 | 7,010 | Lemoore |
| Fairoaks | Sacramento | 1917 | 3,900 | Fairoaks |
| Fallbrook | San Diego | 1925 | 10,217 | Fallbrook |
| Foothill | Fresno-Tulare | 1920 | 55,875 | Orange Cove |
| Fresno | Fresno | 1920 | 243,100 | Fresno |
| Glenn-Colusa[2] | Glenn-Colusa | 1920 | 131,821 | Willows |
| Grenada | Siskiyou | 1921 | 4,948 | Grenada |
| Hemet | Riverside | 1927 | 9 815 | Hemet |
| Hot Spring Valley | Modoc | 1919 | 9,497 | Alturas |
| Imperial | Imperial | 1911 | 612,000 | El Centro |
| Island No. 3 | Kings | 1921 | 4,620 | Laton |
| Jacinto | Glenn | 1917 | 11,554 | Glenn |
| James | Fresno | 1920 | 26,266 | San Joaquin |
| La Canada | Los Angeles | 1924 | 1,294 | La Canada |
| Ladera | Riverside | 1922 | 1,632 | Elsinore |
| Laguna | Fresno-Kings | 1920 | 34,858 | Laton |
| Lakeland | Kings | 1923 | 23,283 | Corcoran |
| Lakeside | San Diego | 1924 | 320 | Lakeside |
| La Mesa, Lemon Grove and Spring Valley | San Diego | 1913 | 19,245 | La Mesa |
| Linden | San Joaquin | 1929 | 13,700 | Linden |
| Lindsay-Strathmore | Tulare | 1915 | 15,250 | Lindsay |
| Little Rock Creek | Los Angeles | 1892 | 3,073 | Little Rock |
| Madera | Madera | 1920 | 352,000 | Madera |
| Maxwell | Colusa | 1918 | 8,820 | Sacramento |
| Merced | Merced | 1919 | 189,682 | Merced |
| Modesto | Stanislaus | 1887 | 81,183 | Modesto |
| Mojave River | San Bernardino | 1917 | 27,665 | Upland, 518 E. 10th St. |
| Montague | Siskiyou | 1925 | 26,117 | Montague |
| Naglee-Burke | San Joaquin | 1920 | 2,871 | Tracy |
| Nevada | Nevada-Placer | 1921 | 164,000 | Grass Valley |
| Newport Heights | Orange | 1918 | 1,503 | Costa Mesa |
| Newport Mesa | Orange | 1918 | 694 | Costa Mesa |
| Oakdale | Stanislaus-San Joaquin | 1909 | 74,246 | Oakdale |
| Oroville-Wyandotte | Butte | 1919 | 24,100 | Oroville |
| Palmdale | Los Angeles | 1918 | 4,756 | Palmdale |
| Palo Verde | Riverside | 1923 | 88,693 | Blythe |
| Paradise | Butte | 1916 | 11,260 | Paradise |
| Potter Valley | Mendocino | 1924 | 5,042 | Potter Valley |
| Princeton-Codora-Glenn | Glenn-Colusa | 1916 | 13,656 | Princeton |
| Provident | Glenn-Colusa | 1918 | 22,805 | Willows |
| Ramona | San Diego | 1925 | 650 | Ramona |
| Richvale | Butte | 1930 | 17,170 | Richvale |
| Riverdale | Fresno | 1920 | 15,830 | Riverdale |
| San Dieguito | San Diego | 1922 | 3,900 | Encinitas |
| Santa Fe | San Diego | 1923 | 9,258 | Rancho Santa Fe |
| San Ysidro | San Diego | 1911 | 497 | San Ysidro |
| Scott Valley | Siskiyou | 1917 | 5 125 | Fort Jones |
| Serrano | Orange | 1927 | 1,505 | Orange |
| South Montebello | Los Angeles | 1922 | 901 | Montebello |
| South San Joaquin | San Joaquin | 1909 | 71,112 | Manteca |
| Stinson | Fresno | 1921 | 11,150 | Helm |

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[1] East Contra Costa formed by consolidation of Brentwood, Knightsen and Lone Tree in 1926.

[2] Glenn-Colusa and Williams consolidated in 1924.

## ACTIVE IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AS OF JULY 1, 1931—Continued

| Name of District | County | Year organized | Area, acres | Address of secretary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Table Mountain | Butte | 1922 | 1,955 | Oroville |
| Terra Bella | Tulare | 1915 | 12,285 | Terra Bella |
| Thermalito | Butte | 1922 | 3,110 | Oroville |
| Tracy-Clover | San Joaquin | 1922 | 1,084 | Tracy |
| Tranquillity | Fresno | 1918 | 10,750 | Tranquillity |
| Tulare | Tulare | 1889 | 34,000 | Tulare |
| Tule | Lassen | 1920 | 15,015 | Susanville |
| Turlock | Stanislaus-Merced | 1887 | 181,498 | Turlock |
| Vandalia | Tulare | 1923 | 1,276 | Porterville |
| Vista | San Diego | 1923 | 18,162 | Vista |
| Walnut | Los Angeles | 1893 | 911 | Rivera |
| Waterford | Stanislaus | 1913 | 14,110 | Waterford |
| West Side | San Joaquin | 1915 | 11,828 | Tracy |
| West Stanislaus | Stanislaus-Merced | 1920 | 21,400 | Westley |
| Woodbridge | San Joaquin | 1924 | 13,430 | Woodbridge |
| Totals |  |  | 3,418,004 |  |

## INACTIVE IRRIGATION DISTRICTS AS OF JULY 1, 1931

| Name of District | County | Year organized | Area, acres | Address of secretary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Baker | Glenn | 1922 | 1,280 | Butte City |
| Big Valley | Lassen-Modoc | 1925 | 12,430 | Bieber |
| Crooks Canyon | Modoc | 1919 | 5,039 | Alturas |
| Dry Creek | Yuba | 1926 | 9,331 | Wheatland |
| El Solyo | Stanislaus | 1921 | 3,783 | Vernalis |
| Fall River Valley | Shasta | 1922 | 13,890 | Glenburn |
| Feather River | Sutter | 1920 | 3,027 | Nicolaus |
| Fullerton | Orange | 1919 | 2,700 | Fullerton |
| Hollister | San Benito | 1923 | 30,203 | Hollister |
| Juniper | Lassen | 1925 | 1,820 | Bieber |
| Kasson | San Joaquin | 1921 | 5,986 | Tracy |
| Lemoore | Kings | 1920 | 53,100 | Lemoore |
| Little Rock-Midland | Los Angeles | 1925 | 2,490 | Palmdale |
| Lucerne | Kings | 1925 | 33,407 | Hanford |
| Medano | Madera-Merced | 1921 | 13,560 | Le Grand |
| Mendota | Fresno | 1921 | 67,089 | Fresno |
| Moorpark-Conejo | Ventura | 1925 | 26,277 | Los Angeles |
| Owens Valley | Inyo | 1922 | 53,990 | Bishop |
| Plainsburg | Merced | 1919 | 5,717 | Merced |
| Red Rock Creek | Lassen | 1918 | 11,844 | Susanville |
| Round Valley | Inyo-Mono | 1923 | 6,716 | Bishop |
| South Capay | Glenn | 1921 | 1,486 | Orland |
| Southern Lassen | Lassen | 1915 | 22,565 | Constantia |
| Stratford[1] | Kings | 1916 | 9,200 | Stratford |
| Victor Valley | San Bernardino | 1917 | 71,517 | Victorville |
| Webster | Madera | 1916 | 15,000 | Madera |

[1] Area of Stratford included in Lemoore.

## OUTLINE OF PROCEDURE FOR THE FORMATION OF AN IRRIGATION DISTRICT

The following is an outline of the steps in the procedure for forming and financing an irrigation district:

(1) Determination of the general practicability of the proposed project. Advice may be obtained from the State Department of Public Works.

(2) Determination of boundaries of proposed district and of proposed source of water supply.

(3) Circulation of petition among property owners within proposed district. Petitions must contain the names of a majority of the holders of title to lands within the proposed district representing a majority in value of said land; or they may contain the names of 500 electors or landowners within the proposed district. (Sec. 1.) This petition should be drawn up and circulated under competent legal advice. (Sec. 2.)

(4) Advertise proposal to present petition for two weeks in some newspaper of general circulation in the county or counties in which the proposed district is situated. (Sec. 2.)

(5) Present petition to board of supervisors at date specified in advertised notice and forward copy of petition to state engineer. (Sec. 2.)

(6) Hearing on sufficiency of petition by county board of supervisors and if found sufficient, forwarding of copy of the determination of the board of supervisors to the state engineer [1] for report. (Sec. 2.)

(7) After receiving the report of the state engineer, and if the proposed district is approved, final hearing on the matter by the board of supervisors and calling of election on organization, notice of such election to be published for at least three weeks prior thereto, and officers of the district to be voted on along with the matter of organization. (Secs. 6 to 8.)

(8) Board of supervisors to canvass votes cast at the election, and if carried, to declare district duly organized. (Sec. 9.)

(9) Organization of the board of directors and employment of an engineer to prepare plans for the district; determination by board of directors of the amount of bonds necessary; reference of plans and specifications to the California districts securities commission. (Secs. 13, 30, and 30a.)

(10) Report by the districts securities commission and the calling of a bond election by the board of directors.

(11) Reference of bond issue to the districts securities commission for certification.

With these and other related steps fully set forth in the act, the district is ready to purchase or construct irrigation works and otherwise carry out the purposes for which it was formed.

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[1] The Department of Public Works has succeeded to the powers and duties conferred or imposed upon the State Engineer by the irrigation laws. (Sec. 363e, Political Code, Stats. 1927, p. 462.)

## 1. CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT ACT[1]

*An act to provide for the organization and government of irrigation districts, and to provide for the acquisition or construction thereby of works for the irrigation of the lands embraced within such districts, and, also, to provide for the distribution of water for irrigation purposes.*

(Approved March 31, 1897, Stats. 1897, p. 254; amended Stats. 1901, p. 815; 1905, p. 27; 1909, pp. 12, 46, 429, 461, 998, 1062, 1075; 1911, pp. 509, 1111; 1911 (extra session), pp. 135, 139, 248; 1913, pp. 59, 781, 993; 1915, pp. 836, 1291, 1326, 1367; 1917, pp. 751, 915; 1919, pp. 472, 660, 714; 1921, pp. 849, 859, 999, 1004, 1108; 1923, pp. 83, 627, 628, 630, 631, 632; 1925, pp. 429, 460, 488, 501; 1927, pp. 23, 26, 134, 186, 188, 189, 191, 194, 205, 251, 614; 1929, pp. 161, 257, 657, 686, 1170; 1931, pp. 121, 122, 123, 172, 233, 246, 247, 325, 378, 439, 777, 1661, 1897, 2206, 2270.)[2]

### ORGANIZATION

#### Who May Propose the Organization of an Irrigation District.

SECTION 1. A majority in number of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands susceptible of irrigation from a common source and by the same system of works, including pumping from subsurface or other waters, such holders of title of evidence of title representing a majority in value of said lands, may propose the organization of an irrigation district, under the provisions of this act; or the organization of such an irrigation district may be proposed by not less than five hundred petitioners, each petitioner to the number of at least five hundred to be an elector residing in the proposed district or the holder of title or evidence of title to land therein; provided, that the said petitioners must include the holders of title or evidence of title to not less than twenty per cent in value of the lands included within the proposed district. The lands proposed to be included within any such irrigation district need not consist of contiguous parcels. Any holder of land under a possessory right acquired by entry or purchase from the United States or the State of California shall be deemed to be a holder of evidence of title to said land within the meaning of this act. The county assessment roll of the county in which any lands included within such proposed irrigation district are situated, which assessment roll has been last equalized at the time of the first publication of said petition as provided in section 2 of this act, shall be conclusive evidence as to the value of said lands and the holders of title or evidence of title to said lands. If any parcel of land is assessed on any assessment roll to unknown or fictitiously named owners, or to unnamed owners in addition to any owner or owners named thereon, said parcel of land shall be deemed, for any of the purposes of this act, to have but one owner in

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[1] NOTE.—Because the present act continues the principles of the original Wright Act of 1887, it is still popularly known as the "Wright Act." The Wright Act of 1887 was repealed, however, in 1897, upon the passage of the present act.

[2] NOTE.—The provisions of the present act, when adopted, were based upon the provisions of the Wright Act and acts supplemental thereto, as indicated below:

| *Present Act* | *Original Acts* |
|---|---|
| §§1–65 | Wright Act, Stats. 1887, p. 29. |
| §§68–72 | Stats. 1889, p. 212. |
| §§74–84 | Stats. 1889, p. 21; as amended 1893, p. 516. |
| §§85–97 | Stats. 1889, p. 18. |
| §§98–99½ | Stats. 1893, p. 276. |
| §§100–105 | Stats. 1893, p. 295. |
| §§106–108 | Stats. 1895, p. 127. |

addition to any owner or owners whose true name or names may be purported to be given on such assessment roll. The holder of title or evidence of title to an undivided interest in any land affected by any of the provisions of this act may sign any petition provided for in this act, and such undivided interest shall be counted and valued as though it were a separate interest, and if the assessment roll shall fail to indicate the extent of any such undivided interest, the holders of title or evidence of title whose undivided interests in any land are not specifically defined shall be deemed to have equal shares therein. Guardians, executors, administrators or other persons holding property in a trust capacity under appointment of court may sign any petition provided for in this act, when authorized by an order of court, which order may be made without notice. A certificate of acknowledgment taken before a notary public or justice of the peace of any state, or an affidavit by any person in the presence of whom such petition was signed, shall be sufficient evidence of the genuineness of such signature and of the fact of place of residence of any petitioners under this act. (Stats. 1919, p. 714.)

Organization:

Assessment roll as evidence of title.

*In re Bonds of So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 161 Cal. 345, 119 Pac. 198.

Legislature may authorize initiatory proposal to be made by such person as it sees fit.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs.*, 162 Cal. 14, 120 Pac. 780.

Holders of title or evidence of title.

*Board of Directors* vs. *Abila*, 106 Cal. 355, 39 Pac. 794;
*Carson* vs. *Cudworth* (Colo.), 140 Pac. 935;
*In re Gallatin Irr. Dist.* (Mont.), 140 Pac. 92–4;
*Gem Irr. Dist.* vs. *Johnson* (Idaho), 109 Pac. 845.

Inclusion of public land will not invalidate organization.

*Cullen* vs. *Glendora W. Co.,* 113 Cal. 503, 39 Pac. 769, 45 Pac. 822, 1047;
*Stevens* vs. *Melville* (Utah), 175 Pac. 602;
*Nevada Bank* vs. *Poso Irr. Dist.*, 140 Cal. 344, 73 Pac. 1056.

But some are not liable for assessments.

*Nevada Bank* vs. *Poso Irr. Dist., supra.*

Pueblo lands belonging to a city may be included and are liable to assessment.

*San Diego* vs. *Linda Vista Irr. Dist.*, 108 Cal. 189, 41 Pac. 291.

Erroneous exclusion of lands does not invalidate organization.

*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *De Lappe*, 79 Cal. 351, 21 Pac. 825;
*Chambers* vs. *Board of Sup'rs.*, 57 Cal. App. 401, 207 Pac. 288;
*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs.*, 38 Cal. App. 480, 176 Pac. 709;
*People* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 307, 197 Pac. 384;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Supervisors*, 189 Cal. 254, 208 Pac. 304;
*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.*, 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 223.

Proceedings relating to organization only and not relating to assessments are not subject to the rule of strict construction.

*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs.*, 38 Cal. App. 480, 176 Pac. 709;
*People* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 307, 197 Pac. 384.

In organization of district, board of supervisors exercise judicial function.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Board of Sup'rs.*, 162 Cal. 11, 120 Pac. 780;
*Chambers* vs. *Board of Sup'rs.*, 57 Cal. App. 401, 207 Pac. 288.

Right to use water from a common source and right to be excluded from district are both property rights of great value.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Board of Sup'rs., supra.*

**Petition to Organize District.**

SEC. 2. In order to propose the organization of an irrigation district, a petition signed by the requisite majority of holders of title or evidence of title to lands within the proposed district or by at least five hundred petitioners, as provided in section 1 of this act, shall be presented to the board of supervisors of the county in which the lands within the proposed district, or the greater portion thereof, are situated. Said petition shall set forth generally the boundaries of the proposed district and also shall state generally the source or sources (which may be in the alternative) from which said lands are proposed to be irrigated, and shall pray that the territory embraced within the boundaries of the proposed district may be organized as an irrigation district under the provisions of this act. The petition may consist of any number of separate instruments, and must be accompanied with a good and sufficient undertaking, to be approved by the board of supervisors, in double the amount of the probable cost of organizing such district, conditioned that the sureties shall pay all of said costs in case said organization shall not be effected. Said petition shall be presented at a regular meeting of said board, and shall be published for at least two weeks before the time at which the same is to be presented in some newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the county where said petition is presented together with a notice stating the time of the meeting at which the same will be presented; and if any portion of the lands within said proposed district lie within another county or counties, then said petition and notice shall be published, as above provided, in a newspaper published in each of said counties. When contained upon more than one instrument, one copy only of such petition need be published, but the names attached to all of said instruments must appear in such publication. On or before the day on which said petition is presented to said board of supervisors, a copy of said petition shall be filed in the office of the state engineer. Signatures to the petition may be withdrawn at any time before the publication is commenced as in this section required, by filing a declaration, signed by the petitioner, with the board of supervisors before which the petition is to be presented, stating that it is the intention of the petitioner to withdraw therefrom, which declaration shall be acknowledged in the same manner as conveyances of real estate are required to be acknowledged. When said petition is presented, said board of supervisors shall hear the same and shall proceed to determine whether or not said petition complies with the requirements hereinbefore set forth and whether or not the notice required herein has been published as required, and must hear all competent and relevant testimony offered in support of or in opposition thereto. Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time for the determination of said facts, not exceeding two weeks in all. No defect in the contents of the petition or in the title to or form of the notice or signatures, and no lack of signatures thereto, or to the petition as published, shall vitiate any proceedings thereon; provided, such petition or petitions have a sufficient number of qualified signatures attached thereto. The determination of the board shall be expressed by resolution. If it shall determine that any of the requirements hereinbefore set forth have not been complied with, the matter shall be dismissed, but without prejudice to the right of the proper number of persons to present a new petition covering the same matter or to present the same petition with additional signatures, if such additional signatures are necessary to comply with the requirements of this act. If the board of supervisors shall determine that the petitioners have complied with the requirements hereinbefore set forth, it shall cause a copy of the resolution so declaring to be forwarded to the state engineer. Upon receiving a copy of said resolution, the state engineer shall make or cause to be made such preliminary investigation as may be practicable, with a view to determining the feasibility of the project proposed to be undertaken. He shall report as soon as practicable, but at all events within ninety days from the date of the adoption of the said resolution, in writing, on the matter to the board of supervisors from which the copy of said resolution was received, except that upon receiving a written request from the state engineer, the board of supervisors may at any meeting before the expiration of said ninety days grant to the state engineer not more than ninety days additional time in which to make said report. If the state engineer shall report within the time specified herein that the supply of water available for the use of the proposed district, or that may be acquired by any practicable means, including the condemnation of existing rights, is not sufficient or that the project is not feasible for any other reason or reasons, the hearing of the matter shall be continued for not more than two months and shall then be dismissed unless the board of supervisors shall be petitioned in writing by three-fourths of the holders of title or evidence of title to land within said proposed district to grant said petition; provided, that if the board of supervisors is not so petitioned, it may modify the plans for the proposed district in accordance with recommendations by the state engineer. If after receiving an adverse report from the state engineer the board of supervisors shall be petitioned as aforesaid or shall decide to modify the plans for the proposed district in accordance with recommendations by the state engineer, it shall, at the time to which the hearing of said matter shall have been continued, set a time for the final hearing thereof. If the continuance of the matter is not compelled by an adverse report as aforesaid, the board of supervisors, at its first regular meeting after the receipt of a report from the state engineer, or at the first regular meeting after the expiration of the time allowed for the making of such report if no such report has been received, shall set a time for a final hearing of the matter. In any case the time set for the final hearing as aforesaid shall not be less than one week from the meeting at which said time was set; provided, that notice of the time of such final hearing shall be given by registered mail to such party as shall have been designated for that purpose by the petitioners, or by publication for at least three days in one daily newspaper published in the county in which the lands within the proposed district, or the greater portion thereof are situated. A failure to give such last mentioned notice, however, shall not affect the validity of subsequent proceedings. On a final hearing herein provided for, the board may adjourn from time to time, but at no time for a longer period than three days until a determination of the matter is reached. On said final hearing said board shall make such changes in the proposed boundaries as it may deem advisable and shall define and establish such boundaries, but said board shall not modify said boundaries so as to exclude from such proposed district any territory which is susceptible of irrigation from any of the sources proposed, unless said board shall decide to modify the plan for such proposed district, as herein provided, nor shall any lands which will not, in the judgment of said board, be benefited by irrigation by means of said systems or works be included within such proposed district. Lands already irrigated and riparian lands may be included in the district if in the judgment of the board of supervisors such land will be benefited, or if the water used thereon or the rights to the use of water thereon should, in the judgment of the board of supervisors, be taken or acquired for the district. Any person whose lands are susceptible of irrigation from any of the proposed sources may, upon his application, in the discretion of said board, have such lands included within said proposed district. (Stats. 1919, p. 715.)

Petition:

The form or contents of the petition is not important, provided that it contains the required recitals showing the boundaries; the proposed sources of supply; that it is the purpose of the petitioners to organize an irrigation district; and praying that the same be organized thereunder.

*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 38 Cal. App. 480, 176 Pac. 709;
*William Hanley Co.* vs. *Harney Valley Irr. Dist.* (Ore.), 180 Pac. 725.

Petition, signatures, and bond for cost of organization:

*Board of Directors* vs. *Abila,* 106 Cal. 365, 39 Pac. 794;
*Fogg* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.,* 154 Cal. 209, 97 Pac. 316;
*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *DeLappe,* 79 Cal. 351, 21 Pac. 825;
*In re Madera Irr. Dist.,* 92 Cal. 296, 28 Pac. 272. 675;
*McAulay* vs. *Board of Sup'rs.,* 178 Cal. 628, 174 Pac. 30:
*Black Canyon Dist.* vs. *Marple* (Idaho), 112 Pac. 766;
*Covell* vs. *Lee,* 71 Cal. App. 361, 235 Pac. 79.

Owners of possessory rights are eligible as petitioners.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs,* 162 Cal. 25, 120 Pac. 780.

It appears to be proper for the board of supervisors to appoint someone as referee to compare the petitions and assessment roll.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs, supra.*

The best evidence, however, is required.

*Wilder* vs. *Board, etc.* (Colo.), 135 Pac. 461;
*Ahern* vs. *Board of Directors* (Colo.), 89 Pac. 964.

The presentation to the board of a bond is jurisdictional, and where, although the bond was informal it was a binding obligation upon those who signed it, the proceedings are not rendered illegal. The supervisors may permit a new bond to be filed.

*In re Madera Irr. Dist.,* 92 Cal. 329, 28 Pac. 272, 675;
*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *DeLappe,* 79 Cal. 357; 21 Pac. 825;
*Bliss* vs. *Hamilton,* 171 Cal. 123, 152 Pac. 303.

Description of boundaries:

A description by metes and bounds sufficient for an ordinary conveyance will suffice. The petition is sufficient so long as the boundaries can be definitely located.

*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *DeLappe,* 79 Cal. 351, 21 Pac. 825;
*In re Madera Irr. Dist.,* 92 Cal. 296: 28 Pac. 272. 675:
*Cullen* vs. *Glendora Water Co.,* 113 Cal. 503, 39 Pac. 769, 45 Pac. 822, 1047;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Kimball* (Wash.), 157 Pac. 38:
*Metcalfe* vs. *Merritt,* 14 Cal. App. 244, 111 Pac. 505;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara,* 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171;
*Yoder* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 208 Cal. 368, 281 Pac. 393.

Land in irrigation district may be included in municipal water district.

*Henshaw* vs. *Foster,* 176 Cal. 507, 169 Pac. 82.

Land in irrigation district may be included in public utility district; need not embrace all of irrigation district as latter is not a municipal corporation.

*Randolph* vs. *Co. of Stanislaus,* 44 Cal. App. 322, 186 Pac. 625.

Irrigation district may embrace lands lying in more than one county.

*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *Williams,* 76 Cal. 360, 18 Pac. 379.

Notice, publication, etc.:

*In re Central Irr. Dist.,* 117 Cal. 382, 49 Pac. 354;
*Fogg vs. Perris Irr. Dist.,* 154 Cal. 209; 97 Pac. 316:
*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs,* 162 Cal. 14; 120 Pac. 780;
*Tulare Dist.* vs. *Shepard,* 185 U. S. 1, 46 L. Ed. 773:

*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 38 Cal. App. 480, 176 Pac. 709;
*Wm. Hanley Co.* vs. *Harney Valley Irr. Dist.* (Ore.), 180 Pac. 724.

The time set for the hearing must be at a regular meeting of the board of supervisors, but it is not necessary that the notice specify that fact.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs, supra.*

The notice need not be separately signed and may precede the petition, with the signatures attached to the petition.

*Fogg* vs. *Perris Dist., supra;*
*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs, supra.*

The date of the petition and notice should not vary.

*Ahern* vs. *Board of Directors* (Colo.), 89 Pac. 964.

Hearing:

At the hearing, the assessment roll is sufficient evidence of ownership.

*In re Bonds of So. Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 161 Cal. 345, 119 Pac. 198.

Right to withdraw from petition:

A petitioner may withdraw his name from the petition at any time prior to its presentation to the board of supervisors on the day fixed therefor; but see amendment of 1919 suspended by referendum.

*McAulay* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 178 Cal. 628, 174 Pac. 30;
*Covell* vs. *Lee*, 71 Cal. App. 361, 235 Pac. 79.

Inclusion and exclusion of lands:

While it appears that the action of the board can not be arbitrary (*Ahern* vs. *Board of Directors* (Colo.), 89 Pac. 964), yet in the absence of fraud the action of the board of supervisors can not be attacked.

*Cullen* vs. *Glendora Water Co.*, 113 Cal. 503, 39 Pac. 769, 45 Pac. 822, 1047;
*Fallbrook Irr. Dist.* vs. *Bradley*, 164 U. S. 112.

The application for inclusion or exclusion need not be in writing.

*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *DeLappe*, 79 Cal. 351, 21 Pac. 825.

Character of irrigation districts:

*Western Assurance Co.* vs. *Drainage Dist.*, 72 Cal. App. 76, 237 Pac. 59;
*Jenison* vs. *Redfield*, 149 Cal. 500, 87 Pac. 62.
*Lindsay-Strathmore Irr. Dist.* vs. *Superior Court;* 182 Cal. 315, 187 Pac. 1056;
*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *White*, 186 Cal. 183, 198 Pac. 1060;
*Tormey* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 53 Cal. App. 559, 200 Pac. 814;
*Whiteman* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 60 Cal. App. 234, 212 Pac. 706.

Character of land that may be included:

As to the land that may be included within a district, the jurisdiction of the board seems to be very broad. It is proper to include cities and any land that in its natural state would be benefited by irrigation.

*La Mesa Homes Co.* vs. *La Mesa Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 121, 159 Pac. 593;
*Tregea* vs. *Modesto Irr. Dist.*, 164 U. S. 179;
*Fallbrook Irr. Dist.* vs. *Bradley*, 164 U. S. 112.

On the inclusion of city or town lots, *see also*

*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea*, 88 Cal. 334, 26 Pac. 237;
*In re Madera Irr. Dist.* 92 Cal. 296; 28 Pac. 272, 675;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Abila*, 106 Cal. 365; 39 Pac. 794;
*In re Central Irr. Dist.*, 117 Cal. 382, 49 Pac. 354;
*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs*, 162 Cal. 14, 120 Pac. 780;
*Nampa Irr. Dist.* vs. *Brose* (Idaho), 83 Pac. 499;
*Chambers* vs. *Board of Supervisors*, 57 Cal. App. 401, 207 Pac. 288.

It appears that rights of way of railroads may likewise be included.

*Oregon Short Line, etc.*, vs. *Pioneer Dist.* (Idaho), 102 Pac. 905.

Held no machinery by which such rights of way may be compelled to pay assessments.

*Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry. Co.* vs. *Rec. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 91, 159 Pac. 430;
But see *Southern Pacific Co.* vs. *Stibbens*, 103 Cal. App. 664, 285 Pac. 374.

Fixing of boundaries by board of supervisors:

*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *DeLappe*, 79 Cal. 351, 21 Pac. 825;
*Cullen* vs. *Glendora Water Co.*, 113 Cal. 517, 39 Pac. 769, 45 Pac. 822, 1047;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea, supra;*
*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs, supra;*
*Board of Directors* vs. *Kimball* (Wash.), 157 Pac. 38;
*Ahern* vs. *Board of Directors* (Colo.), 89 Pac. 963.

Inclusion or exclusion after organization:

Where the petitioner brings himself within the specified classes of those entitled to exclusion, he has an absolute right to such exclusion and writ of mandate will issue to enforce such right, and he is not estopped by participation in formation proceedings.

*Harelson* vs. *San Joaquin Irr. Dist.,* 20 Cal. App. 324, 128 Pac. 1010.

As to necessity of notice to owners of included lands in case of proceedings for change of boundaries, *see*

*People* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.,* 51 Cal. App. 307, 197 Pac. 384, 26 Cal. Jur., p. 372.

Injunction may be granted, in a proper case, to prevent inclusion of lands.

*Harbough* vs. *Enlarged Baxter Creek Irr. Dist.,* 58 Cal. App. 134, 207 Pac. 1018.

State engineer, procedure upon receipt of adverse report by:

*Rich et al.* vs. *Connelly,* 52 Cal. App. 556, 199 Pac. 540.

The report of the state engineer, the certificate of acknowledgment and the affidavit annexed to the petition may be considered by the board in arriving at the jurisdictional facts.

*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 189 Cal. 254, 209 Pac. 304.

The report of the state engineer is advisory only.

*Rich* vs. *Connelly,* 52 Cal. App. 556, 199 Pac. 540.

Where organization is defeated the burden of cost is placed on the promoter under the required undertaking.

*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.,* 190 Cal. 732. 214 Pac. 223.

The provision that errors in or omissions of names shall not vitiate proceedings is valid.

*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 38 Cal. App. 480, 176 Pac. 709.

It is not a jurisdictional defect that the notice of time of presentation of the petition to the board of supervisors is not signed by all petitioners.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 162 Cal. 14, 120 Pac. 780.

The petition for formation is the basis for all proceedings and all else is evidentiary and procedural.

*Rich* vs. *Connelly,* 52 Cal. App. 556, 199 Pac. 540.

## State Engineer to Furnish Information.

Sec. 2a. The state engineer shall have authority, and it shall be his duty, to give information so far as may be practicable to persons contemplating the organization of irrigation districts under the provisions of this act. Whenever the department of engineering shall deem it in the public interest that preliminary surveys and field investigations of proposed irrigation district projects shall be made at the expense of the state, the state engineer shall make such surveys and field investigations of such proposed irrigation district projects, and, pending the completion of such surveys and investigation, the state water commission shall have authority to withhold from appropriation any unappropriated waters likely to be needed therefor. (Stats. 1917, p. 755.)

*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 189 Cal. 254, 208 Pac. 304;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara,* 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171.

## Order of Supervisors Reaffirming Conclusions.

Sec. 3. Upon the final hearing of said petition or said matter, the board of supervisors shall make an order reaffirming its conclusions as to the genuineness and sufficiency of the petition and notice hereinbefore provided for, reciting that a report regarding the proposed district has been made by the state engineer and is on file with the other records of the board, and describing the boundaries of the proposed district as defined and established by said board. Said order shall be entered in full upon the minutes of said board. At said final hearing no evidence shall be heard against the genuineness or sufficiency of said petition or notice unless it shall be shown to the satisfaction of said board that new evidence which, if uncontradicted, would disprove the genuineness or sufficiency of said petition or notice has been discovered since said board adopted the resolution declaring that said petition and notice complied with all the requirements of this act. In case any new evidence is admitted, full opportunity shall be given for the introduction of evidence in rebuttal thereof. (Stats. 1913, p. 996.)

Sufficiency of petition and genuineness of signatures to be determined by board of supervisors.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs*, 162 Cal. 14, 120 Pac. 780;
*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs* 38 Cal. App. 480, 176 Pac. 709;
*Rich* vs. *Connelly*, 52 Cal. App. 556, 199 Pac. 540.

### Finding of Board to Be Conclusive.

Sec. 4. A finding of the board of supervisors in favor of the genuineness and sufficiency of the petition and notice shall be final and conclusive against all persons except the State of California upon suit commenced by the attorney general. Any such suit must be commenced within one year after the order of the board of supervisors declaring such district organized as herein provided, and not otherwise. (Stats. 1911, extra session, p. 139.)

Former section 4 providing for appeal to superior court held unconstitutional.
*Chinn* vs. *Superior Court*, 156 Cal. 478, 105 Pac. 580.

Certiorari.

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 162 Cal. 14, 120 Pac. 780;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 189 Cal. 254, 209 Pac. 304.

Conclusiveness of order.

*Fallbrook Irr. Dist.* vs. *Bradley*, 164 U. S. 112, 171;
*People* vs. *Hagar*, 52 Cal. 171–182;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, *supra*.
*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea*, 88 Cal. 335, 26 Pac. 237;
*In re Madera Irr. Dist.*, 92 Cal. 296, 28 Pac. 272, 675;
*O'Neill* vs. *Yellowstone Dist.* (Mont.), 121 Pac. 283;
*Progressive Irr. Dist.* vs. *Smith* (Idaho), 156 Pac. 1133;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Peterson* (Ore.), 129 Pac. 123;
*Links* vs. *Anderson* (Ore.), 168 Pac. 605;
*Herrett* vs. *Warm Springs Dist.* (Ore.), 168 Pac. 609;
*Andrews* vs. *Lillian Irr. Dist.* (Nebr.), 97 N. W. 336;
*Sowerwine* vs. *Central Dist.* (Nebr.), 124 N. W. 119;
*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 38 Cal. App. 480, 176 Pac. 709;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171.

Statute of limitations.

(See Sec. 72, *infra.*)
*In re Central Irr. Dist.*, 117 Cal. 382, 49 Pac. 354;
*People* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 142 Cal. 601, 76 Pac. 381;
*Miller* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 85 Fed. 693;
*Tulare Irr. Dist.* vs. *Shepherd*, 185 U. S. 1–18;
*Progressive Irr. Dist.* vs. *Anderson* (Idaho), 114 Pac. 16–18.

Bona fide attempt to organize followed by user.

*Tulare Irr. Dist.* vs. *Shepard*, 185 U. S. 1.

### Establishing Divisions and Election of Directors.

Sec. 5. If, on said final hearing, the boundaries of the proposed district are defined and established, said board shall make an order dividing said district into five divisions, as nearly equal in size as may be practicable, which shall be numbered first, second, third, fourth and fifth, and one director shall be elected for each division by the electors thereof; provided, that if so requested in said petition, the board may order that there shall be only three divisions in said district, and that only three directors be elected, and that the directors may be elected by the district at large, or by divisions, as such petition shall provide, but in any event such directors shall be elected to represent separate divisions and shall be residents of the respective divisions they are elected to represent. (Stats. 1915, p. 1368.)

*Cullen* vs. *Glendora Water Co.,* 113 Cal. 503, 39 Pac. 769, 45 Pac. 822, 1047;
*Abbey* vs. *Board of Directors,* 58 Cal. App. 757, 209 Pac. 709.

## ELECTION ON ORGANIZATION

### Call and Notice for Election; Ballots.

SEC. 6. Said board of supervisors shall then call and cause notice to be given of an election to be held in such proposed district, for the purpose of determining whether or not the same shall be organized under the provisions of this act, and to elect persons to fill the offices of said proposed district in case it shall be organized. Such notice shall describe the boundaries so established and shall designate a name for the proposed district, and specify the offices for which candidates may be voted for at said election. Said notice shall be published three times, to wit, once a week for three weeks, previous to such election, in a newspaper published within the county in which the petition for the organization of the proposed district was presented; and if any portion of such proposed district is within another county or counties, then such notice shall be published for the same length of time in a newspaper published in each of said counties. For the purposes of said election the board of supervisors must establish a convenient number of election precincts in said proposed district, and define the boundaries of the same. Election officers for said election shall be appointed, candidates for the offices of said proposed district shall be nominated, ballots and other supplies shall be provided and such election shall be conducted as nearly as practicable in accordance with the provisions of this act concerning general irrigation district elections, unless herein otherwise particularly provided, excepting, however, that the board of supervisors shall act in place of the board of directors and the clerk of the board of supervisors shall act in place of the secretary of the board of directors. On the ballots provided for said election shall be printed a proposition substantially as follows: "Shall the proposed____________ irrigation district be organized?" followed by the words "Yes" and "No," with voting space thereafter. No informalities in the conduct of said election or in any matters relating thereto shall invalidate said election or the result thereof if notice thereof shall have been given substantially as herein provided and said election shall have been fairly conducted. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 123.)

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 162 Cal. 25, 120 Pac. 780;
*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *DeLappe,* 79 Cal. 351, 21 Pac. 825;
*Cullen* vs. *Glendora Water Co.,* 113 Cal. 503, 39 Pac. 769, 45 Pac. 822, 1047;
*Links* vs. *Anderson* (Ore.), 168 Pac. 1182;
*Ells* vs. *Board of Sup'rs,* 38 Cal. App. 480, 176 Pac. 709;
*Covell* vs. *Lee,* 71 Cal. App. 361, 235 Pac. 79;
*Abbey* vs. *Board of Directors,* 58 Cal. App. 757, 209 Pac. 709.

### Officers to Be Elected.

SEC. 7. At such election there shall be elected a board of directors, and an assessor, collector, and treasurer; provided, that where a consolidation of officers as hereinafter provided for is deemed advisable in the organization of a district, the petitioners may request in their petition for organization such consolidation, and the board of supervisors calling the election shall in its order therefor announce such consolidation, and then only one person shall be elected to fill the several offices so consolidated. (Stats. 1929, p. 686.)

### Qualifications of Electors.

SEC. 8. No person shall be entitled to vote at any election held under the provisions of this act unless he possesses all the qualifications required of electors under the general election laws of the state.

It is immaterial that nonresident landowners within the district are excluded from voting.

*In re Madera Irr. Dist.*, 92 Cal. 321, 28 Pac. 272, 675.

Exercise of suffrage within district is not limited by constitutional provisions re exercise of franchise.

*Potter* vs. *Santa Barbara*, 160 Cal. 349; 116 Pac. 1101;
*Tarpey* vs. *McClure*, 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983;
*Barber* vs. *Galloway*, 195 Cal. 1, 231 Pac. 34.

### Canvass of Votes; Declaration of Result.

SEC. 9. The board of supervisors shall meet on the second Monday succeeding such election, and shall proceed to canvass the votes cast thereat, and if upon such canvass it appears that a majority of all the votes cast are "Irrigation District—Yes," said board shall, by an order entered on its minutes declare the territory duly organized as an irrigation district, under the name theretofore designated, and shall declare the persons receiving respectively the highest number of votes at said election to be duly elected. (Stats. 1919, p. 718.)

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 162 Cal. 14, 120 Pac. 780;
*Progressive Irr. Dist.* vs. *Anderson* (Idaho), 114 Pac. 16.

### Order to Be Filed With County Recorder.

SEC. 10. Said board shall then cause a copy of such order, duly certified, to be immediately filed for record in the office of the county recorder of any county in which any portion of the lands embraced in such district are situated, and must also immediately forward a copy thereof to the clerk of the board of supervisors of each of said last-mentioned counties, and no board of supervisors of any county in which any portion of the lands embraced in such district are situated shall, after the date of the organization thereof, allow another district to be formed including any portion of said lands, without the consent of the board of directors of the district in which they are situated. From and after such filing, the organization of such district shall be complete.

Courts have no power to dissolve an irrigation district in the absence of statutory authority.

*People* vs. *Selma Irr. Dist.*, 98 Cal. 206, 32 Pac. 1047.

When the organization of the district has been declared by order of the board of supervisors, the order is notice to its inhabitants and to the world of its existence and of its boundaries.

*Fogg* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 154 Cal. 209, 97 Pac. 316;
*Progressive Irr. Dist.* vs. *Anderson* (Idaho), 114 Pac. 16.

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*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.*, 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 223.

**Election May Be Contested; Appeal.**

Sec. 11. Such election on organization may be contested by any person owning property within the proposed district liable to assessment. The directors elected at such election shall be made parties defendant. Such contest shall be brought in the superior court of the county where the petition for organization is filed; provided, that if more than one contest be pending they shall be consolidated and tried together. The court having jurisdiction shall speedily try such contest, and determine, upon the hearing, whether the election was fairly conducted and in substantial compliance with the requirements of this act, and enter its judgment accordingly. Such contest must be brought within twenty days after the canvass of the vote and declaration of the result by the board of supervisors. The right of appeal is hereby given to either party to the record within thirty days from entry of judgment. The appeal must be heard and determined by the supreme court within sixty days from the time of filing the notice of appeal.

**Tenure of Office.**

Sec. 12. The officers elected at the election hereinbefore provided for shall immediately enter upon their duties as such, upon qualifying in the manner for such officers herein provided. Said officers shall hold office respectively until their successors are elected and qualified.

Officers of irrigation district are public officers.

*In re Madera Irr. Dist.*, 92 Cal. 296, 28 Pac. 272, 675;
*People* vs. *Selma Dist.*, 98 Cal. 206, 32 Pac. 1047;
*Perry* vs. *Otay Irr. Dist.*, 127 Cal. 565, 60 Pac. 40;
*Recl. Dist.* vs. *Superior Court*, 171 Cal. 672, 154 Pac. 845;
*Rose* vs. *Superior Court*, 80 Cal. App. 739, 252 Pac. 765;
*Fallbrook Irr. Dist.* vs. *Bradley*, 164 U. S. 174, 41 L. ed. 394, 17 Sup. Ct. 69.

## DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Organization.**

Sec. 13. The directors of any district created after the passage of this act, on the first Tuesday after they have been elected and after they shall have qualified, shall meet and classify themselves by lot into two classes as nearly equal in number as possible, and the term of office of the class having the least number shall expire at noon on the first Tuesday in March of the next odd-numbered year after the year in which said meeting is held, and the term of office of the class having the great number shall expire at noon on the first Tuesday in March of the second odd-numbered year after the year in which said meeting is held. After such classification, said directors shall organize as a board, shall elect a president from their number, and appoint a secretary, who shall each hold office during the pleasure of the board. The salary of the secretary and the amount of the bond to be given by him for the faithful performance of his duties shall be fixed by the board of directors. (Stats. 1927, p. 186.)

Board of Directors have no power to appoint their own members as secretary or superintendent.

*Interstate Trust Co.* vs. *Steele* (Colo.), 173 Pac. 873–5.

As to power of director to act on own claims, see

*Reclamation Dist.* vs. *McCullah*, 124 Cal. 175, 56 Pac. 887.

**Monthly Meetings; Quorum.**

SEC. 14. The board of directors shall hold a regular meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at the place selected as the office of the board; provided, that the board may, by resolution duly entered upon its minutes, fix any other time as the time for its regular monthly meeting, but no change in the time of holding regular meetings of the board shall be made until after the resolution proposing such change has been published once a week for two successive weeks in a newspaper published in the county in which the office of the district is kept. Such special meetings of the board of directors may be held as may be required for the proper transaction of the business of the district, but a special meeting must be ordered by a majority of the board. The order must be entered of record, and five days notice thereof must by the secretary be given to each director not joining in the order. The order must specify the business to be transacted, and no other business than that specified in the order may be transacted at such special meeting, unless all the members are present and consent to the consideration of any business not specified in said order. All meetings of the board must be public and three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; provided, however, that when the board consists of three members only, then in such case two shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but on all questions requiring a vote, except a motion to adjourn or a motion to adjourn to a stated time, there shall be a concurrence of at least the number constituting a quorum. A smaller number of directors than a quorum may adjourn from day to day. All records of the board shall be open to public inspection during business hours. Whenever any act is required to be done or proceeding taken by this act, or by an act supplemental or amendatory thereto, on the first Tuesday in any month, such act may be done or proceeding had upon the day specified in the resolution hereinbefore referred to as the time for the regular meeting of the board of directors; provided, also, that when a day other than the first Tuesday in the month shall have been specified as the time for the regular meeting of the board of directors, thereafter the newly elected officers of the district shall take office at noon on the day fixed for the regular monthly meeting of said board in March and said board shall meet for reorganization and the transaction of any other business of the district in the afternoon of said day. (Stats. 1917, p. 755.)

*Imperial Land Co. vs. Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113.

**Publication of Financial Condition.**

SEC. 14a. The board of directors at their regular monthly meeting in January of each year shall render and immediately thereafter cause to be published a verified statement of the financial condition of the district, showing particularly the receipts and disbursements of the last preceding year, together with the source of such receipts and purpose of such disbursements. Said publication shall be made at least once a week for two weeks, in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the board of directors of such district is situated. (Stats. 1917, p. 756.)

**General Powers of Directors.**

Sec. 15. The board of directors shall have the power and it shall be their duty to manage and conduct the business and affairs of the district; make and execute all necessary contracts; employ and appoint such agents, officers, and employees as may be required, and prescribe their duties.[1] The board and its agents and employees shall have the right to enter upon any land and make surveys, and may locate the necessary irrigation works and the line for canal or canals, and the necessary branches for the same on any lands which may be deemed best for such location. Said board shall also have the right to acquire, by purchase, lease, contract, condemnation,[2] or other legal means, all lands, and waters, and water rights, and other property necessary for the construction, use, supply, maintenance, repair and improvements of said canal, or canals, and works, whether in this or in other states[3] or in a foreign nation, including canals, and works constructed and being constructed by private owners,[4] lands for reservoirs for the storage of needful waters, and all necessary appurtenances, and also, where necessary or convenient to said ends and for said uses and purposes, to acquire and hold the stock of corporations, domestic or foreign,[5] owning waters, water rights, canals, waterworks, franchises, concessions or rights. Said board may enter into, and do any acts necessary or proper for the performance of any agreements with the United States[6] or any state, county, district of any kind, public or private corporation, association, firm or individual, or any number of them,[7] for the joint acquisition, construction, leasing ownership, disposition, use, management, maintenance, repair or operation of any rights, works or other property of a kind which might lawfully be acquired or owned by the irrigation district, and may acquire the right to store water in any reservoirs or to carry water through any canal, ditch or conduit not owned or controlled by the district, and may grant to any owner or lessee of the right to the use of any of any water the right to store such water in any reservoir of the district or to carry such water through any canal, ditch or conduit of the district. Said board may also enter into and do any acts necessary or proper for the performance of any agreement with any district of any kind, public or private corporation, association, firm or individual, or any number of them, for the transfer or delivery to any such district, corporation, association, firm or individual, of any water right or water pumped, stored, appropriated, or otherwise acquired or secured for the use of the irrigation district or for the purpose of exchanging the same for other water or water right or water supply in exchange for water or water right or water supply to be delivered or transferred to said irrigation district by the other party to said agreement.[8] (Stats. 1927, p. 23.)

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[1] Section 7 of the Workmen's Compensation, Insurance and Safety Act of 1917 (as amended by Stats. 1919, p. 913) provided that the term "employer" as used in the act, shall be construed to include irrigation districts.

[2] For power of district to take immediate possession of right of way in eminent domain proceedings, see Art. I, Sec. 14, of the Constitution.

[3] For regulations governing agreements with irrigation districts in adjoining states, see supplementary act of 1917 (Stats. 1917, p. 905).

[4] The procedure before the Railroad Commission for the valuation of the property of a public utility in condemnation proceedings instituted by a district is prescribed in sections 47 and 70 of the Public Utilities Act (as amended by Stats. 1917, p. 261.)

[5] Districts are given authority to acquire the stock of any foreign corporation owning a system in a foreign country by Art. IV, Sec. 31, of the Constitution.

[6] Authority to enter into agreements with the United States government under the federal reclamation laws is given by Stats. 1917, p. 243. Supplementary powers are also given by Stats. 1907, p. 569, providing for drainage by districts, and Stats. 1913, p. 75, permitting the employment of agricultural experts by districts.

[7] See Art. IV, Sec. 31, of the Constitution.

As to liability of district for preorganization expenses, see

*Ser-vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.*, 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 223;
*Biggart* vs. *Lewis*, 183 Cal. 660, 192 Pac. 437;
*Wilbur* vs. *Tia Juana Irr. Dist.*, 94 Cal. App. 511, 271 Pac. 514.

Mandamus will not issue to compel an irrigation district to construct canals, etc., where it is not shown that it has available funds.

*Nelson* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 92, 196 Pac. 292.

An irrigation company can obtain right to run waste water by an executed oral license.

*Imperial Water Company* vs. *Wores*, 29 Cal. App. 253, 155 Pac. 121.

Liability for seepage where right of way granted or condemned.

*Groff* vs. *Reclamation Dist. 108*, 97 Cal. App. 22, 274 Pac. 993;
*Sternes* vs. *Sutter Butte Canal Co.*, 61 Cal. App. 737, 216 Pac. 66;
*Yolo Water & Power Co.* vs. *Hudson*, 182 Cal. 48, 186 Pac. 772;
*Sutro Heights, etc., Co.* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 81 Cal. Dec. 346, 296 Pac. 1088.

"Property necessary" includes pipe line.

*Rialto Irr. Dist.* vs. *Brandon*, 103 Cal. 384, 37 Pac. 484.

The mode, time and manner of executing the powers granted by this section are found in sections 30, 30a, 37, 39, 55, 59 and 61.

*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100.

*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491;
*N. P. Ry. Co.* vs. *John Day Irr. Dist.* (Ore.), 211 Pac. 781;
*Danley* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 66 Cal. App. 97, 226 Pac. 847;
*Crawford* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 200 Cal. 318; 253 Pac. 726;
*Kelsey* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 66 Cal. App. 113, 226 Pac. 853.
*San Diego* vs. *La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.*, 63 Cal. App. Dec. 777, 292 Pac. 1182;
*Lindsay-Strathmore Irr. Dist.* vs. *Wutchumna Water Co.*, 64 Cal. App. Dec. 578, 296 Pac. 933;
*Willard* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 726, 258 Pac. 959;
*Woods* vs. *Baxter Creek Irr. Dist.*, 25 Fed. (2d) 296.

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[8] The 1927 act amending section 15 also contained the following:

SEC. 2. This act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure within the meaning of section 1 of article IV of the constitution of the State of California, and shall take effect immediately.

The following is a statement of facts constituting such urgency:

The people of the State of California, at the general election held in said state on the second day of November, 1926, duly approved and ratified an amendment to section 31 of article IV of the constitution of the State of California, whereby irrigation districts were authorized and empowered, for the purpose of acquiring water and water rights and other property necessary for their uses and purposes, to acquire and hold the stock of corporations owning waters, water rights, canals, water works, franchises or concessions, subject to the same obligations and liabilities as are imposed by law upon all other stockholders in such corporations; that the power of the electors of irrigation districts to authorize, at a special election called therefor, the levy of special assessments, and the power of the board of directors of such districts to levy special assessments authorized at such election, is limited by the provisions of said California irrigation district act to the raising of money to be applied to any of the purposes, now expressed or specified in said act or any act supplementary thereto; that it is necessary to make said act conform to the provisions of section 31 of article IV of the constitution in so far as the same relate to irrigation districts, in order that said districts may be empowered to raise money by special assessments to be applied to the purchase of stock in water corporations for the purposes expressed in said constitutional provision; that it is necessary for the uses and purposes of some of the irrigation districts organized and now existing under the laws of this state, that they should immediately acquire stock in water corporations in order to make water available for the irrigation of lands within their boundaries at the earliest possible moment, and for domestic uses; that unless such water can be acquired and used for said purposes during the irrigation season of 1927, irreparable injury may be suffered by the owners of land situate therein and the inhabitants thereof; that unless this act goes into effect as an emergency measure, it can not take effect until ninety days from and after the adjournment of the present session of this Legislature, and the effective date thereof will be thereby postponed until the month of August or September of this year at which time the flow of streams of California will be reduced to a minimum and no water will be available for irrigation purposes; that the public peace and safety require that this act shall go into immediate effect.

Irrigation district may sue and be sued.

*Boehmer* vs. *Big Rock Irr. Dist.*, 117 Cal. 19, 48 Pac. 908;
*Peters* vs. *Union Gap Irr. Dist.* (Wash.), 167 Pac. 1085;
*Dauley* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist. et al.*, 66 Cal. App. 97, 226 Pac. 847;
*Noon* vs. *Gem Irr. Dist.*, 205 Fed. 402.

Power of directors to make contracts.

*Board of Directors* vs. *Peterson* (Ore.), 128 Pac. 837;
*Colburn* vs. *Wilson* (Idaho), 130 Pac. 381;
*Hansen* vs. *Kittitas Dist.* (Wash.), 134 Pac. 1083;
*Warm Springs Irr. Dist.* vs. *Pacific Live Stock Co.* (Ore.), 173 Pac. 265.

Directors not liable for nondelivery of water.

*Nisson* vs. *Coult*, 96 Cal. App. 611, 274 Pac. 603;
*Nisson* vs. *Cordua Irr. Dist.*, 204 Cal. 542, 269 Pac. 171.

Directors not liable for negligence.

*Hilton* vs. *Oliver*, 204 Cal. 545, 269 Pac. 425;
*Whiteman* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 60 Cal. App. 234, 212 Pac. 706;
*Western Assurance Co.* vs. *Drainage Dist.*, 72 Cal. App. 76, 237 Pac. 59.

District not liable for negligence of agents and employees.

*Whiteman* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 60 Cal. App. 234, 212 Pac. 706;
*Morrison* vs. *Smith Bros.*, 80 Cal. Dec. 571, 293 Pac. 53.
(See also 69 A. L. R. 1225).

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*Woods* vs. *Baxter Creek Irr. Dist.*, 25 Fed. (2d) 296.

SEC. 15a. (Repealed, Stats. 1919, p. 661.)

### Construction of District Works; Provision for Service to Lands of Mutual Water Companies.

SEC. 15b. The board of directors of any irrigation district may also construct the necessary dams, reservoirs, and works for the collection of water for said district, and do any and every lawful act necessary to be done, that sufficient water may be furnished to each landowner in said district for irrigation and domestic purposes; provided, that where, within irrigation districts mutual water companies have been organized to furnish water to certain specified lands within said districts, the board of directors of such districts are hereby authorized and empowered to contract for the delivery of water for such lands as lie within the boundary of said water companies, through said mutual water companies only. The said board is hereby authorized and empowered to take conveyances, leases, contracts or other assurances for all property acquired by it under the provisions of this act, in the name of such irrigation district, to and for the uses and purposes herein expressed, and to institute and maintain any and all actions and proceedings, suits at law or in equity necessary or proper in order to fully carry out the provisions of this act, or to enforce, maintain, protect or preserve any and all rights, privileges and immunities created by this act, or acquired in pursuance thereof. And in all courts, actions, suits or proceedings, the said board may sue, appear and defend in person or by attorneys, and in the name of such irrigation district. (Stats. 1917, p. 758.)

Right to contract with mutual water company to deliver water to district sustained under Idaho statute.

*Pioneer Irr. Dist.* vs. Stone (Idaho), 130 Pac. 382.

Districts may purchase mutual water company stock.

*Lindsay-Strathmore Irr. Dist.* vs. *Wutchumna Water Co.*, 64 Cal. App. Dec. 578, 296 Pac. 933.

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*Crawford* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 200 Cal. 318, 253 Pac. 726.

### Rules for Use of Water.

SEC. 15c. It shall be the duty of the board of directors of any irrigation district to establish equitable by-laws, rules and regulations for the distribution and use of water among the owners of said lands, which must be printed in convenient form for ditsribution in the district. Said board shall have power generally to perform all such acts as shall be necessary to fully carry out the purposes of this act. (Stats. 1917, p. 758.)

General and implied powers.

*City of Nampa* vs. *Nampa, etc., Dist.* (Idaho), 131 Pac. 8;
*Stevens* vs. *Melville* (Utah), 175 Pac. 602-4.

Power to make and enforce rules.

*Hamp* vs. *State* (Wyo.), 118 Pac. 653, 662;
*La Mesa Community Ditch* vs. *Appelzoeller* (N. Mex.), 140 Pac. 1051.
(See also Sec. 18 hereof.)

As to right to cut off water because of nonpayment of bills, see note, 28 A. L. R. 472.

Duty of water.

*Joerger* vs. *Mount Shasta, etc., Co.*, 207 Cal. 8, 276 Pac. 1017.

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*Crawford* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 200 Cal. 318, 253 Pac. 726;
*Nelson* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 92, 196 Pac. 292;
*San Diego* vs. *La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.*, 63 Cal. App. Dec. 777, 292 Pac. 1082;

### Change of Divisions or Election Precincts; Canals and Works May Be Leased.

SEC. 15d. The board of directors, when they deem it advisable for the best interests of the district, and the convenience of the electors thereof, may at any time, but not less than sixty days before an election to be held in the district, change the boundaries of the divisions or election precincts of the district or of both; provided, such changes shall be made to keep each division as nearly equal in area and population as may be practicable. Such change of boundaries of the divisions and precincts must be shown on the minutes of the board. The board of directors of any irrigation district now or that may hereafter be organized in the state, shall also have the power, and such board is hereby vested with the authority, to lease the system of canals and works in the district, or any part thereof, whenever such leasing may be for the benefit of the district; provided, that when the directors of any irrigation district contemplate the leasing of the canals and works of such district, they shall give notice of such contemplation by publishing the same in some newspaper published in the county in which such irrigation district lies, at least three weeks prior to the making of any lease, and such lease shall be made to the highest bidder. But such board shall have the right to reject any and all such bids. Such lease shall in no way interfere with any rights that may have been established by law, at the time such lease is made; and, further provided, that the board of directors shall require a good and sufficient bond to secure faithful performance of the lease by the lessees. (Stats. 1917, p. 758.)

Lease or transfer of property.

*Byington* vs. *Sacramento, etc., Co.* 170 Cal. 124, 148 Pac. 791;
*McKim* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 110, 255 Pac. 506.

### Special Accounts May Be Established From General Fund.

SEC. 15e. The board of directors may by resolution establish special accounts from the general fund as may be necessary or convenient in the efficient and economical operation of the district and designate the person or officer to have custody of the several accounts so established and fix bond for the faithful discharge of their several duties, the cost of which bond may be paid by the district. Such special accounts shall severally be supplied from the general fund by warrant as provided by section 54, the same as in payment of any other claim against the district. The person in custody of any of said accounts shall make to the board a verified report in writing between the first and tenth of each month showing the amount of money received by him for said account since the last report and the amount and items of expenditures therefrom; said report shall be filed with the secretary of the board. No payment shall be made from any of said accounts except upon the written order of the person or one of the persons designated for the purpose by the board indicating in said order the purpose for which and the person to whom payment is to be made and with the approval in writing of the person or one of the persons designated for the purpose by the board. (Stats. 1931, p. 1661.)

SEC. 15½. (Renumbered as section 15d by Stats. 1917, p. 758.)

### Condemnation Proceedings.

SEC. 16. In case of condemnation proceedings the board shall proceed, in the name of the district, under the provisions of title VII, part III of the Code of Civil Procedure of the State of California, and all pleadings, proceedings, and process in said title provided shall be applicable to the condemnation proceedings hereunder. (Stats. 1917, p. 759.)

Condemnation procedure.

*Warm Springs Irr. Dist.* vs. *Pacific Live Stock Co.* (Ore.), 173 Pac. 265.

Owner estopped to claim subsequent damages for seepage from right of way granted or condemned.

*Sternes* vs. *Sutter-Butte Canal Co.*, 61 Cal. App. 737, 216 Pac. 66;
*Groff* vs. *Recl. Dist.*, 97 Cal. App. 22, 274 Pac. 993;
*Yolo Power, etc., Co.* vs. *Hudson*, 182 Cal. 48, 186 Pac. 772;
*Sternes* vs. *Sutter-Butte, etc.*, Co., 99 Cal. App. 465, 278 Pac. 921;
*Sutro Heights, etc., Co.* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 81 Cal. Dec. 346, 296 Pac. 1088.

Directors liable for unauthorized trespass—constitutional procedure must be followed.

*Newberry* vs. *Evans*, 76 Cal. App. 492, 245 Pac. 227; 97 Cal. App. 120, 275 Pac. 465.

Power to condemn canals and water rights of irrigation district for more necessary public use, queried.

*Colburn* vs. *Wilson* (Idaho), 130 Pac. 381;
*Mono Power Co.* vs. *Los Angeles*, 284 Fed. 784;
*San Diego* vs. *Cuyamaca W. Co.*, 209 Cal. 152, 287 Pac. 496;
*East Bay Municipal Utility Dist.* vs. *Railroad Com.*, 194 Cal. 603, 229 Pac. 949;
*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *Sierra, etc., Co.*, 69 Cal. App. 150, 230 Pac. 671.

Showing of necessity.

*Rialto Irr. Dist.* vs. *Brandon*, 103 Cal. 384, 37 Pac. 484.

Taking possession before judgment. Const., Art. I, Sec. 14.

*Marblehead Land Co.* vs. *Superior Court*, 69 Cal. App. 72, 230 Pac. 468.

## WATER REGULATIONS

### Use of Water a Public Use Subject to Control of State.

SEC. 17. The use of all water required for the irrigation of the lands of any district formed under the provisions of this act, or the act of which this is supplementary or amendatory, and for domestic and other incidental and beneficial uses, within such district,[1] together with the rights of way for canals and ditches,[2] sites for reservoirs, and all other property required in fully carrying out the provisions of this act is hereby declared to be a public use, subject to the regulation and control of the state, in the manner prescribed by law. (Stats. 1911, p. 512.)

### Apportionment of Water; Lease or Sale of Surplus Water.

SEC. 18. It is hereby expressly provided that all waters distributed for irrigation purposes shall be apportioned ratably to each landowner upon the basis of the ratio which the last assessment of such owner for district purposes within said district bears to the whole sum assessed upon the district; and any landowner may assign the right to the whole or any portion of the waters so apportioned to him; or the board of directors of said district may, if they deem it for the best interest of the district, enter into a contract for the lease or sale of any surplus water, or the use of such water, not then necessary for use within the said district for any lawful purposes, for use either within or without the district; provided, however, that no right in such or any water owned by the district shall thereby be acquired by user; and provided, further, that nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing the sale of any water right. Provided, further, that when any rates of toll and charges for the use of water are fixed by the board of directors, as provided in section 55 of this act, the water for the use of which such rates of toll and charges have been fixed, shall be distributed equitably, as may be provided by the board of directors, among those offering to make the required payment therefor; and provided, further, that if an irrigation district has contracted to deliver, and is delivering, water to mutual water companies for distribution to territory served thereby, the water shall be appropriated on such a basis as the board of directors shall find to be just and equitable and for the best interests of all parties concerned. Any lease or contract entered into for a period of more than one year shall not be valid unless approved by the California bond certification commission. (Stats. 1929, p. 657.)

District can not distribute its water outside of its boundaries.

*Jennison* vs. *Redfield*, 149 Cal. 500, 87 Pac. 62;
*Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.* vs. *Paulson*, 75 Cal. App. 57, 242 Pac. 494.

*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea*, 88 Cal. 334, 26 Pac. 237;
*Hewitt* vs. *S. J. and P. V. Irr. Dist.*, 124 Cal. 186, 56 Pac. 893;
*Merchants, etc. Bank* vs. *Escondido Seminary*, 144 Cal. 329, 77 Pac. 937;
*Jennison* vs. *Redfield, supra*;
*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491;
*Nelson* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood, Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 92, 196 Pac. 292;
*San Diego* vs. *La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.*, 63 Cal. App. Dec. 777, 292 Pac. 1082:
*Willard* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 726, 258 Pac. 959;
*Western Union Tel. Co.* vs. *Modesto Irr. Dist.*, 149 Cal. 662, 87 Pac. 190.
See also, Sec. 15c hereof.

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[1] See Art. XIV, Sec. 1, of the Constitution, declaring use of water a public use. Also, see, "An act regarding irrigation and declaring the same to be a public use," approved May 1, 1911, Stats. 1911, p. 1407.

[2] For power of district to take immediate possession of right of way in eminent domain proceedings, see Art. I, Sec. 14, of the Constitution.

## GENERAL ELECTIONS

### Irrigation District Officers to Be Elected.

SEC. 19. An election, which shall be known as the general irrigation district election, shall be held in each irrigation district on the first Wednesday in February in each odd-numbered year, at which a successor shall be chosen to each officer whose term will expire in March next thereafter. The person receiving the highest number of votes for each office to be filled at such election shall be elected thereto. The elective officers of an irrigation district shall be as many directors as there are divisions in the district, and an assessor, a collector and a treasurer; provided, that if any two or more offices shall have been consolidated as provided in section 7 or section 27 hereof, only one person shall be elected to fill such consolidated offices. The term of office of each elective officer of an irrigation district shall be four years, except as provided in section 13 of this act and except that the terms of office of the assessor, collector, and treasurer elected at the time of the organization of any district shall expire at the same time as the terms of the directors of the class having the greater number as provided in said section 13, but the expiration of the term of any officer shall not create a vacancy in his office, but he shall hold office until his successor shall have qualified. (Stats. 1927, p. 187.)

*N. P. Ry. Co. vs. John Day Irr. Dist.* (Ore.), 211 Pac. 781.

### Official Bonds.

SEC. 19a. Within ten days after receiving their certificates of election hereinafter provided for, said officers shall take and subscribe the official oath, and file the same in the office of the board of directors, and execute the bond hereinafter provided for. The assessor shall execute an official bond in the sum of five thousand dollars, and the collector an official bond in the sum of twenty thousand dollars, and the district treasurer an official bond in the sum of fifty thousand dollars; each of said bonds to be approved by the board of directors; provided, that the board of directors may, if it shall be deemed advisable, fix the bonds of the treasurer and collector, respectively, to suit the conditions of the district, the maximum amount of the treasurer's bond not to exceed fifty thousand dollars and the minimum amount thereof not to be less than ten thousand dollars; and the maximum amount of the collector's bond not to exceed twenty thousand dollars, and the minimum amount of the collector's bond not to be less than five thousand dollars. Each member of said board of directors shall execute an official bond in the sum of five thousand dollars, which said bonds shall be approved by the judge of the superior court of said county where such organization was effected, and shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder thereof, and filed with the secretary of said board. All official bonds herein provided for shall be in the form prescribed by law for the official bonds of county officers and the premiums thereon may be paid by the district; provided, that in case any district organized under this title is appointed fiscal agent of the United States or by the United States in connection with any federal reclamation project, each of said officers shall execute a further and additional official bond in such sum as the secretary of the interior may require, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office and the faithful discharge by the district of its duties as fiscal or other agent of the United States under any such appointment or authorization and any such bond may be sued upon by the United States or any person injured by the failure of such officer or the district to fully, promptly and completely perform their respective duties. (Stats. 1917, p. 760.)

Form and condition of official bond.
Political Code, sections 954, 958.

Vacancy created by failure of officer to qualify.
Political Code, section 996, subdivision 9.

Consolidated offices require separate bonds.
*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *Edwards*, 205 Cal. 320, 270 Pac. 936.

### Petition for Special Election.

Sec. 19b. If an election is not held as herein provided, then upon the filing of a petition with the secretary of the board of directors of such district, signed by ten per cent of the electors residing within the boundaries of any such irrigation district, requesting that a special election be called for the election of such officers, the directors of such district shall thereupon call a special election thereof for the election of such officers, such election to be held within not less than fifteen, nor more than thirty days after the filing of such petition. The officers elected at such special election shall each take office as soon as they shall have been declared elected and shall have qualified. (Stats. 1927, p. 187.)

### Appointment of Board of Directors When No Election Held.

Sec. 19c. Whenever a verified petition, signed by the owners of a majority of the land in an irrigation district shall be filed with the board of supervisors of any county in which such irrigation district or the greater part thereof is situated, showing that no more than five owners of land in the district are residents and electors thereof, and that no general irrigation district election was held in the district at the last date fixed for such election by section 19 of this act, said board of supervisors shall set a date for the hearing of such petition, which date shall be not less than ten days nor more than thirty days from the presentation thereof to said board, and shall give notice of said hearing by publication in at least two issues of a newspaper published in the county in which said board of supervisors has its office. At said hearing, if the facts alleged in said petition be established to the satisfaction of said board of supervisors, said board shall so find by resolution and shall then appoint for said district a board of directors to consist of three owners of land within said district, who need not be residents thereof. The directors so appointed shall take office as soon as they shall have qualified in accordance with the provisions of this act, and shall hold office until their successors are appointed and qualified or until an election is duly called and held as provided for in this act. Upon their organization as a board, they shall fill by appointment the offices of treasurer, collector and assessor, and none of the persons so appointed need be residents or landowners within the district. (Stats. 1929, p. 257.)

### Beginning of Term; Organization of Board.

SEC. 20. At noon of the first Tuesday in March next following their election, except as provided in section 14 of this act, the officers who shall have been elected at the preceding general irrigation district election shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices. On the first Tuesday in March next following each election, the directors shall meet and organize as a board, elect a president and appoint a secretary, who shall each hold office during the pleasure of the board. (Stats. 1917, p. 761.)

### Notice of Elections; Election Officers.

SEC. 21. Fifteen days before any election held under this act, subsequent to the organization of any district, the secretary of the board of directors shall cause notices to be posted in three public places in each election precinct, of the time and place of holding the election. and shall also post a general notice of the same in the office of said board, which shall be established and kept at some fixed place, to be determined by said board, specifying the polling places of each precinct. Prior to the time for posting the notices, the board must appoint for each precinct, from the electors thereof, one inspector, two judges and two clerks, or at their option one inspector, one judge and one clerk, who shall in either case constitute a board of election for such precinct. If the board fail to appoint a board of election, or the members appointed do not attend at the opening of the polls on the morning of election, the electors of the precinct present at that hour, may appoint the board, or supply the place of an absent member thereof. The board of directors, must, in its order appointing the board of election, designate the house or place within the precinct where the election must be held. (Stats. 1921, p. 860.)

Election may be held on a holiday.
*People vs. Loyalton*, 147 Cal. 774, 82 Pac. 434.

### Powers and Duties of Election Officers.

SEC. 22. The inspector is chairman of the election board and may administer all oaths required in the process of an election; and appoint judges and clerks, if, during the progress of the election, any judge or clerk cease to act. Any member of the board of election may administer and certify oaths required to be administered during the progress of an election. Before opening the polls, each member of the board must take and subscribe an oath to faithfully perform the duties imposed upon them by law. Any electors of the precinct may administer and certify such oath. The polls must be opened at six a.m. on the morning of the election, and be kept open until seven p.m., when the same must be closed; provided, however, the board of directors may in the notice of election as provided in section 21 of this act provide that the polls shall be open from eight a.m. to four p.m., at which times the polls shall be opened and closed respectively. (Stats. 1921, p. 860.)

Opening and closing polls.
*Board of Directors* vs. *Abila*, 106 Cal. 365, 39 Pac. 793.

### Ballots; Manner of Voting.

SEC. 22a. The ballot used at the election shall be provided by the board of directors, and one of the clerks of election shall deliver, to each of the electors, one of the ballots so provided. The ballots shall have printed on them the names of all candidates whose names have been filed as provided in this act, with a voting square behind each name. The names shall be arranged in groups, alphabetically, under the designation of the office for which each person named is a candidate. Where more than one person is to be elected for an office of the same title, the words "Vote for —— (inserting the proper number)" shall be printed under the title of the office. Each elector shall stamp a cross, with a rubber stamp to be provided by the board of directors, in the square behind the name of each candidate he wishes to vote for. (Stats. 1909, p. 1062.)

Form of ballot.

Political Code, section 1197, subdivision 8;
*Edes* vs. *Haley* (Wash.), 162 Pac. 50.

### Nominating Petitions.

SEC. 22b. Not less than fifteen days before the election, any ten or more electors in the district may file with the board of directors a petition, requesting that certain persons, specified in such petition, be placed on the ballot as candidates for the office named in the petition. The names proposed by the various petitions so filed, and no others, shall be printed on the ballots, but there shall be sufficient blank spaces left in which electors may write other names if they so desire. The petitions shall be preserved in the office of the secretary of the district. (Stats. 1927, p. 187.)

### Voting and Counting of Votes.

SEC. 23. Voting may commence as soon as the polls are opened, and may be continued during all the time the polls remain opened, and shall be conducted, as nearly as practicable, in accordance with the provisions of the general election laws of this state. As soon as all the votes are counted, a certificate shall be drawn upon each of the papers containing the poll lists and tallies, or attached thereto, stating the number of votes each one voted for has received, and designating the office to fill which he was voted for, which number shall be written in figures and in words at full length. Each certificate shall be signed by the clerk, judge and the inspector. One of said certificates, with the poll list and the tally paper to which it is attached, shall be retained by the inspector, and preserved by him at least six months. The ballots shall be strung upon a cord or thread by the inspector, during the counting thereof, in the order in which they are entered upon the tally list by the clerks; and said ballots together with the other of said certificates, with the poll list and tally paper to which it is attached, shall be sealed by the inspector in the presence of the judges and clerks, and indorsed "Election returns of (naming the precinct) precinct," and be directed to the secretary of the board of directors, and shall be immediately delivered by the inspector, or by some other safe and responsible carrier designated by said inspector, to said secretary, and the ballots shall be kept unopened for at least six months; and if any person be of the opinion that the vote of any precinct has not been correctly counted, he may appear on the day appointed for the board of directors to open and canvass the returns, and demand a recount of the vote of the precinct that is so claimed to have been incorrectly counted.

Right of contest of election of officers elected at irrigation district election.
*Hertle* vs. *Ball* (Idaho), 72 Pac. 953;
(See also Sec. 72, *infra.*)
*Huck* vs. *Rathjen*, 66 Cal. App. 84, 225 Pac. 33.

**Canvass of Votes.**

Sec. 24. No list, tally paper, or certificate returned from any election, shall be set aside or rejected for want of form, if it can be satisfactorily understood. The board of directors must meet at its usual place of meeting on the first Monday after each election to canvass the returns. If, at the time of meeting, the returns from each precinct in the district in which the polls were opened have been received, the board of directors must then and there proceed to canvass the returns; but if all the returns have not been received, the canvass must be postponed from day to day until all the returns have been received, or until six postponements have been had. The canvass must be made in public and by opening the returns and estimating the vote of the district for each person voted for, and declaring the result thereof.

Canvassing returns and declaring result.
*Board of Directors* vs. *Abila.*, 106 Cal. 365, 39 Pac. 793;
*Edes* vs. *Haley* (Wash.), 162 Pac. 50.

**Statement of Results; Vacancies, How Filled.**

Sec. 25. The secretary of the board of directors must, as soon as the result is declared, enter in the records of such board a statement of such result, which statement must show: (a) The whole number of votes cast in the district, and in each division of the district; (b) the names of the persons voted for; (c) the office to fill which each person was voted for; (d) the number of votes given in each precinct to each of such persons; (e) the number of votes given in each division for the office of director, and the number of votes given in the district for the offices of assessor, collector, and treasurer. The board of directors must declare elected the persons having the highest number of votes given for each office. The secretary must immediately make out and deliver to such person a certificate of election, signed by him, and authenticated with the seal of the board.

In case of a vacancy in the office of assessor, collector, or treasurer, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the board of directors: provided, that if said board of directors shall neglect or refuse to make such appointment within a period of forty days, then the board of supervisors of the county wherein the office of said board of directors is situated shall make such appointment. In case of a vacancy in the office of director, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the board of supervisors of the county where the office of such board of directors is situated, from the division in which the vacancy occurred. An appointment to fill a vacancy as above provided shall be for the unexpired term of the office in which the vacancy existed. (Stats. 1927, p. 188.)

*Quinton* vs. *Equitable Investment Co.*, 196 Fed. 314;
*Drescher* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 191 Cal. 234, 215 Pac. 902.

### Qualification of Director.

SEC. 26. A director shall be an elector and a freeholder of the irrigation district and a resident of the division which he is elected to represent. (Stats. 1929, p. 686.)

The acts of an officer, though not qualified for want of residence within the district, will be regarded as valid acts of an officer *de facto*.

*Baxter* vs. *Vineland Irr. Dist.*, 136 Cal. 185, 68 Pac. 601;
*Oakland Paving Co.* vs. *Donovan*, 19 Cal. App. 488, 126 Pac. 388;
*Clark* vs. *Manhattan Beach*, 175 Cal. 637, 166 Pac. 806.

Right to office can not be questioned collaterally.

*In re Danford*, 157 Cal. 425, 108 Pac. 322;
*People* vs. *Ellsus*, 58 Cal. App. 396, 211 Pac. 34;
*Baxter* vs. *Dickinson*, 136 Cal. 185, 68 Pac. 601; 21 Cal. Jur. 1014.

As to whether candidate must be eligible at time of election, see

*Bergevin* vs. *Curtz*, 127 Cal. 86, 59 Pac. 312;
*Ward* vs. *Crowell*, 142 Cal. 587, 76 Pac. 491.

### Consolidation of Offices.

SEC. 27. The board of directors may, in its discretion, consolidate any two or more of the offices of assessor, collector, and treasurer. The order of consolidation must be made at least thirty days prior to general election of the district, and shall take effect at the next succeeding election; provided, that the board of directors may, at least thirty days before a general election of the district, where the offices have been consolidated, segregate the same, each office to be filled at such election.

Liability of consolidated offices separate.

*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *Edwards*, 205 Cal. 320, 270 Pac. 936.

### Appointment of Deputies by Treasurer.

SEC. 27a. The treasurer and collector of any irrigation district may appoint as many deputies as may be necessary for the prompt and faithful discharge of the duties of his office, said deputies to hold office at the pleasure of the appointing power. Such appointment must be in writing and filed in the office of the board of directors. Every such deputy shall take and file an oath in the manner required of his principal before assuming the duties of his office. (Stats. 1923, p. 632.)

*See ante*, p. 26, Pol. Code, Sec. 4024.

### Deposit of Moneys.

SEC. 27b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law relating to the deposit of public money, any money belonging to an irrigation district organized or existing under this act may be deposited by the treasurer or any officer of such district having legal custody of such money in any state or national bank or banks in this state, and said districts shall receive such rate of interest therefor as may be agreed upon by the officer making such deposit and said bank or banks. Such treasurer or other officer shall require such bank or banks in which such money is deposited to furnish as security for such deposits, bonds of the United States, or of this state or of any county, municipality, school district, or irrigation district within this state that are legal investments for savings banks of this state, the market value of which bonds shall at all times be at least ten per cent in excess of the amount of the deposits secured thereby; or in lieu of such bonds such treasurer or said other officers shall be entitled to take as security for such fund so deposited, depositary bonds duly executed and delivered by a surety company duly authorized to do business in the State of California, which depositary bonds shall be and remain in an amount not less than the amount of the funds so deposited and held in said bank or banks. The cost of such depositary bond or bonds may be borne by the district. Such treasurer or said other officers shall not be responsible for any loss of public moneys resulting from the deposit thereof in banks when made in accordance with the provisions of this section but such treasurer shall be chargeable with the safekeeping, management and disbursement of the bonds deposited with him as security for the deposit of such moneys, and the respective irrigation district shall be responsible for the custody and safe return of any bonds so deposited.[1] (Stats. 1929, p. 686.)

*In re Farmers & Merchants Bank*, 82 Cal. Dec. 17.

### Directors, Election for Changing Number of.

Sec. 28. In any district the board of directors thereof must, if a petition therefor signed by a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title to the lands within said district representing a majority in value of said lands shall have been filed in the office of the board at least seventy days before the next ensuing general irrigation district election, make an order that the number of directors in said district shall be changed to three or five, or that the directors shall be elected by the district at large or by divisions, or that both the number of directors and the method of their election shall be thus changed, as may be requested in said petition; or, the board of directors on its own initiative, by resolution adopted not less than fifty days before the next ensuing general irrigation district election, may, and said board must, if a petition therefor signed by at least five hundred holders of title or evidence of title to lands within said district representing at least twenty per cent in value of the lands within said district shall have been filed in the office of the board at least seventy days before the next ensuing general irrigation district election, submit to the qualified electors of the district at said election the question whether the number of directors in said district shall be changed to three or five, or whether the directors shall be elected by the district at large or by divisions, or whether both the number of directors and the method of their election shall be thus changed. If upon the submission of said question at an election as aforesaid, a majority of the electors voting thereon in said district and a majority of the electors voting thereon in each division of a majority of the divisions within said district shall approve the change, or changes, proposed in the proposition submitted, the board of directors shall make an order in accordance with such approval. If an order made by the board of directors as in this section provided shall require a change in the method of electing directors, all directors thereafter elected in said district shall be elected by divisions or by the district at large as may be provided in said order. If such an order shall require a change in the number of directors, the board of directors shall forthwith redivide said district into the number of divisions corresponding to the number of directors specified in said order, and the terms of office of all the directors of the district shall expire on the first Tuesday in March following the next general irrigation district election, and at said election the number of directors designated in said order shall be elected and shall enter upon the duties of their office on the first Tuesday in March next following their election, and shall classify themselves and determine the length of their respective terms in the manner provided in this act in the case of directors elected upon the organization of a district. The provisions of section 1 of this act regarding evidence of the genuineness of signatures and place of residence of petitioners shall apply to the petitions provided for in this section. If a question is submitted to the electors of a district as in this section provided, it shall be stated on the ballot, and the method of voting thereon shall be, as nearly as practicable in conformity with the provisions of section 30e of this act, and the notice of election shall contain a statement showing what change or changes are proposed in the question thus to be submitted. (Stats. 1923, p. 83.)

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[1] See *ante*, pp. 39, 40, "Bonds security for . . . bank deposits."

*Abbey* vs. *Board of Directors*, 58 Cal. App. 757, 225 Pac. 33.

**Recall of Officers.**

SEC. 28½.[1] The holder of any elective office of any irrigation district may be removed or recalled at any time by the electors; provided, he has held his office at least six months. The provisions of this section are intended to apply to officials now in office, as well as to those hereafter elected. The procedure to effect such removal or recall shall be as follows: A petition demanding the election of a successor to the person sought to be removed shall be filed with the secretary of the board of directors of such district, which petition shall be signed by registered voters equal in number to at least twenty-five per cent of the highest vote cast within such district for candidates for the office, the incumbent of which is sought to be removed, at the last general election in such district at which an incumbent of such office was elected, or, in the case of the removal of the incumbent of an office elected by a subdivision of such district, such petition shall be signed by a like percentage of qualified electors of such subdivision computed upon the total number of votes cast in such subdivision for all candidates for the office, the incumbent of which is sought to be removed, at the last general election in such subdivision at which an incumbent of such office was elected; and said petition shall contain a statement of the grounds on which the removal or recall is sought, which statement is intended solely for the information of the electors. Any insufficiency of form or substance in such statement shall in nowise affect the validity of the election and proceedings held thereunder. The signatures to the petition need not all be appended to one paper. Each signer shall add to his signature his place of residence, giving the precinct, and if within a town having named streets and numbered houses, street and number. Each such separate paper shall have attached thereto an affidavit made by an elector of the district and sworn to before an officer competent to administer oaths, stating that the affiant circulated that particular paper and saw written the signature appended thereto; and that according to the best information and belief of the affiant, each is the genuine signature of the person whose name purports to be thereunto subscribed and of a qualified elector of the district. Within ten days from the date of filing such petition, the secretary of the board shall examine and from the records of registration ascertain whether or not said petition is signed by the requisite number of qualified electors, and he shall attach to said petition his certificate showing the result of said examination. If by the said certificate the petition is shown to be insufficient, it may be supplemented within ten days from the date of such certificate, by the filing of additional papers, duplicates of the original petition except as to the names signed. The secretary shall, within ten days after such supplementing papers are filed, make like examination of a supplementing petition, and if a certificate shall show that all the names to such petition, including the supplemental papers, are still insufficient, no action shall be taken thereon; but the petition shall remain on file as a public record; and the failure to secure sufficient names shall be without prejudice to the filing later of an entirely new petition to the same effect. If the petition shall be found to be sufficient, the secretary shall submit the same to the board of directors without delay, whereupon the board shall forthwith cause a special election to be held within not less than thirty-five nor more than forty days after the date of the order calling such election, to determine whether the voters will recall such officer; provided, that if a general election is to occur within sixty days from the date of the order calling for such election, the board may in its discretion postpone the holding of such election to such general election or submit such recall election at any such general election for officers of such district occurring not less than thirty-five days after such order. If a vacancy occur in said office after a recall petition is filed, the election shall nevertheless proceed as in this section provided. One petition is sufficient to propose a removal and election of one or more elective officials. One election is competent for the removal and election of one or more elective officials. Nominations for any office under such recall election shall be made in the manner prescribed by section 22b of this act.

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[1] Removal for cause, see section 73, *infra*.

There shall be printed on the recall ballot, as to every officer whose recall is to be voted on thereat, the following question: "Shall (name of person against whom the recall petition is filed) be recalled from the office of (title of the office)?" following which question shall be the words "Yes" and "No" on separate lines, with a blank space at the right of each, in which the voter shall indicate, by stamping a cross (×) his vote for or against such recall. On such ballots, under each such question, there shall also be printed the names of those persons who have been nominated as candidates to succeed the person recalled, in case he shall be removed from office by said recall election; but no vote shall be counted for any candidate for said office unless the voter also voted on said question of the recall of the person sought to be recalled from said office. The name of the person against whom the petition is filed shall not appear on the ballot as a candidate for the office. If a majority of those voting on said question of the recall of any incumbent from office shall vote "No," said incumbent shall continue in said office. If a majority shall vote "Yes," said incumbent shall thereupon be deemed removed from such office, upon the qualification of his successor. The election shall be conducted, canvass of all votes for candidates for said office shall be made and the result declared in like manner as in a regular election within such district. If the vote at any such recall election shall recall the officer, then the candidate who has received the highest number of votes for the office shall be thereby declared elected for the remainder of the term. In case the person who received the highest number of votes shall fail to qualify within ten days after receiving the certificate of election, the office shall be deemed vacant and shall be filled according to law. If the vote at any such recall election shall not recall the officer, no further petition for the recall of such officer shall be filed before the expiration of six months from the date of such first recall election. (Stats. 1911, Extra Session, p. 135.)

This section is constitutional.

*Wigley* vs. *So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 31 Cal. App. 162;
(Sec. 1083, Pol. Code, must be read with this section.)
*Chambers* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 57 Cal. App. 155, 206 Pac. 773;
*Abbey* vs. *Board of Directors*, 58 Cal. App. 757, 209 Pac. 709.

## TITLE TO PROPERTY

### Vests in District; Disposition of.

SEC. 29. The legal title to all property acquired under the provisions of this act shall immediately and by operation of law vest in such irrigation district, and shall be held by such district, in trust for, and is hereby dedicated and set apart to the uses and purposes set forth in this act. And said board is hereby authorized and empowered to hold, use, acquire, manage, occupy and possess said property, as herein provided. The board of directors may determine by resolution duly entered upon their minutes that any property, real or personal, held by such irrigation district is no longer necessary to be retained for the uses and purposes thereof, and may thereafter sell such property; and a conveyance of any property held by an irrigation district, executed by the president and secretary thereof, in accordance with a resolution of the board of directors of such district, when sold for a valuable consideration, shall convey good title to the property so conveyed. (Stats. 1909, p. 1075.)

*Hewitt* vs. *S. J. and P. V. Irr. Dist.*, 124 Cal. 186;
*Merchants Bank* vs. *Escondido Seminary*, 141 Cal. 329;
*Jennison* vs. *Redfield*, 149 Cal. 500, 87 Pac. 62;
*Tulare Irr. Dist.* vs. *Collins*, 154 Cal. 440, 97 Pac. 1124;
*Lindsay-Strathmore Irr. Dist* vs. *Wutchumna W. Co.*, 64 Cal. App. Dec. 578, 296 Pac. 933.

Irrigation district property exempt from taxation.

*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *White*, 186 Cal. 183, 198 Pac. 1060;
*San Francisco* vs. *McGovern*, 28 Cal. App. 491, 152 Pac. 980;
*State Land, etc., Board* vs. *Henderson*, 197 Cal. 470, 241 Pac. 560.

Attention is also called to Sec. 1158, Civil Code, which provides, "that deeds or grants conveying to a political corporation or governmental agency real estate or any interest therein or easements thereon, for public purposes shall not be accepted for recordation without the consent of the grantee, evidenced by its resolution of acceptance attached to such deed or grant."

See *Los Angeles H. S. Dist.* vs. *Quinn*, 195 Cal. 377, 231 Pac. 313, re acceptance required of high school district.

## ISSUANCE OF BONDS

### Estimate of Money Needed for Improvements.

SEC. 30. For the purpose of constructing or purchasing necessary irrigation canals and works, and acquiring the necessary property and rights therefor, and for the purpose of acquiring waters, water rights, reservoirs, reservoir sites, and other property necessary for the purposes of said district, and otherwise carrying out the provisions of this act, or any other act under which said district is or may be authorized to acquire property or construct works, the board of directors of any such district must, as soon after such district has been organized as may be practicable, and also whenever thereafter the board of directors shall find that the construction fund raised by the last previous bond issue is insufficient, or that the construction fund has been exhausted by expenditures herein authorized therefrom and it is necessary to raise additional money for said purposes, estimate and determine the amount of money necessary to be raised. For the purpose of ascertaining the amount of money necessary to be raised for such purposes, or any of them, said board shall cause such surveys, examinations, drawings and plans to be made as shall furnish the proper basis for said estimate. Said surveys, examinations, drawings and plans, and the estimate based thereon may provide that the works necessary for a completed project shall be constructed progressively during a period of years. In the estimate of the amount of money necessary to be raised by any issue of bonds in any district, the board of directors may include a sum sufficient to pay the interest on all of such bonds for three years or less. All such surveys, examinations, drawings and plans shall be made under the direction of a competent irrigation engineer and shall be certified by him. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 1661.)

Purposes for which bonds may be issued.

*Hughson* vs. *Crane*, 115 Cal. 404, 47 Pac. 120;
*Stimson* vs. *Alessandro Dist.*, 135 Cal. 389, 67 Pac. 496, 1034;
*Leeman* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 140 Cal. 540, 74 Pac. 24;
*Hooker* vs. *East Riverside Dist.*, 38 Cal. App. 615, 177 Pac. 184;
*Stowell* vs. *Rialto Irr. Dist.*, 155 Cal. 215, 100 Pac. 248.
(See Sec. 61b, *infra.*)

Plans and estimate.

*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea*, 88 Cal. 334, 26 Pac. 237;
*Cullen* vs. *Glendora Water Co.*, 113 Cal. 503, 39 Pac. 769, 45 Pac. 822, 1047;
*Hughson* vs. *Crane*, 115 Cal. 404, 147 Pac. 120;
*Hanson* vs. *Kittitas Dist.* (Wash.), 134 Pac. 1983;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Scott* (Wash.), 140 Pac. 391.

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*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491;
*Tormey* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 53 Cal. App. 559, 200 Pac. 814;
*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.*, 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 233;
*Wores* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist. et al.*, 193 Cal. 609, 227 Pac. 181;
*La Mesa, Lemon Grove & Spring Valley Irr. Dist.* vs. *Halley*, 197 Cal. 50, 239 Pac. 719;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100;
*Woods* vs. *Baxter Creek Irr. Dist.*, 25 Fed. (2d) 296.

### Report Submitted to California Districts Securities Commission.

Sec. 30a. The board of directors shall then submit a copy of the said estimate and the said engineer's report to the commission authorized by law to approve bonds of irrigation districts for certification as legal investments for savings banks and for the other purposes specified in the act creating said commission. Said commission shall forthwith examine said report and any data in its possession or in the possession of said district and shall make such additional surveys and examinations as it may deem proper or practicable, and as soon as practicable thereafter shall make to the board of directors of said district a report which shall contain such matters as, in the judgment of the said commission, may be desirable; provided, that it may state generally the conclusions of said commission regarding the supply of water available for the project, the nature of the soil proposed to be irrigated as to its fertility and susceptibility to irrigation, the probable amount of water needed for its irrigation and the probable need of drainage, the cost of works, water rights and other property necessary for a complete and satisfactory project, the proper dates of maturity for the bonds proposed to be issued and whether in its opinion it is advisable to proceed with the proposed bond issue. If the estimate of the amount of said bond issue shall have included any amount for the payment of interest on the bonds of such issue, as provided in section 30 of this act, it shall be lawful for the board of directors, if the issuance of such bonds is thereafter authorized by vote of the electors of the district, to use for the payment of interest on any bonds of such issue so much of the proceeds of the sale of said bonds as may have been approved for that purpose in said report of the commission. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 2270.)

*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100.

### Order Determining Amount of Bonds.

SEC. 30b. If after such examination and investigation the said commission shall deem it advisable that the said plans be modified or that the amount of the bonds proposed to be issued be changed, or that certain conditions should be prescribed to insure the success of the project, or that in its opinion it is not advisable to proceed with the proposed bond issue, it shall so state in its report to the board of directors. After receiving said report, or if no report is received within ninety days after the submission of said estimate and engineer's report to said commission, said board of directors, if it shall determine and shall declare by resolution that the proposed plan of works or some modified plan recommended by said commission is satisfactory and that the said project or said modified plan is feasible, shall make an order determining the amount of bonds that should be issued in order to raise the money necessary therefor, and in determining said amount sufficient shall be included to cover the estimated cost of inspection of works in course of construction, as provided for by law; provided, that if any district shall issue bonds to carry out any plans approved by said commission as herein provided it shall be unlawful for said district to make any material change in said plans thereafter without the consent of said commission. (Stats. 1921, p. 1108.)

### Special Bond Election, Call for; Petition.

SEC. 30c. After the making of the order specified in section 30b of this act said board of directors may call a special election, at which shall be submitted to the electors of such district possessing the qualifications prescribed by this act, the question whether or not the bonds of said district in the amount determined in said order of said board shall be issued, and said board must call such an election and submit said question upon receipt of a petition signed by a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands within the district, representing, also, a majority in value of said lands, or by at least five hundred petitioners, each petitioner to the number of at least five hundred to be an elector residing within the district or a holder of title or evidence of title to lands therein, provided that said petitioners shall include the holders of title or evidence of title to not less than twenty per cent in value of said lands. In determining the value of any lands within an irrigation district and the holders of title or evidence of title to such lands for the purpose of determining the sufficiency of any petition required by this act after the organization of the district, the assessment roll of the district last equalized at the time of the presentation of such petition shall be conclusive evidence, but if no assessment roll of the district has theretofore been equalized, then the county assessment roll of the county within which any lands within the district is situated, which county assessment roll has been last equalized at the time of the presentation of such petition, shall be conclusive evidence of such facts for such land. (Stats. 1919, p. 664.)

Who may sign petition.

*In re Bonds of So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 161 Cal. 345, 119 Pac. 198.

Election.

*Board of Directors* vs. *Abila*, 106 Cal. 365, 39 Pac. 793.

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*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491.

### Notice of Election.

SEC. 30d. Notice of such election must be given by posting notices in three public places in each election precinct in said district for at least twenty days and also by publication of such notice in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the board of directors of such district is required to be kept, once a week for at least three successive weeks. Such notices must specify the time of holding the election, the amount of bonds proposed to be issued; and said election must be held and the result thereof determined and declared in all respects as nearly as practicable in conformity with the provisions of this act governing the election of officers; provided, that no informalities in conducting such an election shall invalidate the same if the election shall have been otherwise fairly conducted. (Stats. 1917, p. 763.)

### Form of Ballot; Deciding Vote: Two-thirds Majority.

SEC. 30e. At said election questions as to the issuance of bonds may be submitted separately on the same ballot if estimates of the cost of the respective projects have been made and the irrigation district bond commission has reported thereon and the respective propositions have been stated in the notices of the election. At such election the ballots shall contain a general statement of the proposition or propositions to be voted on, including the amount of bonds proposed to be issued for each purpose, but no informality in such statement shall vitiate the election. Each proposition shall be followed by the words "Yes" and "No," on separate lines, with a small inclosed space after each of said words. The electors shall vote for or against any proposition by stamping a cross (×) in the voting space after the word "Yes" or "No" respectively. On the ballot shall be printed the following under the heading "Instructions to voters": "To vote for a proposition, stamp a cross (×) in the voting space after the word 'Yes' following the proposition. To vote against a proposition, stamp a cross (×) in the voting space after the word 'No' following the proposition." If two-thirds of the votes cast for and against any proposition are for "Yes," the board of directors shall cause bonds in the amount specified in such proposition to be issued; provided, that if said election shall have been called after the presentation of a petition therefor as provided in section 30c of this act, the board of directors shall cause bonds in the amount specified in any proposition to be issued if a majority of the votes cast for and against said proposition are for "Yes." If the number of votes for any proposition is less than the number required herein to authorize the issuance of the bonds provided for therein, the result of the vote on said proposition shall be entered of record, but said proposition may be again submitted to the electors of the district at a special election upon the presentation to the board of directors of a petition therefor signed as provided in section 30c of this act. (Stats. 1919, p. 664.)

Sec. 18 of Art. XI of the State Constitution inapplicable.
*In re Madera Irr. Dist.*, 92 Cal. 296, 28 Pac. 272, 675;
*Bliss* vs. *Hamilton*, 171 Cal. 123, 152 Pac. 303.

**Bonds; Requirements, Denominations, Interest, Etc.**

Sec. 31. Subject to the provisions of this act, the board of directors shall prescribe the form of the bonds issued by the district and of the interest coupons to be attached thereto. An issue of bonds is hereby defined to be all the bonds issued in accordance with a proposal approved by the electors of the district. Each issue of the bonds of a district shall be numbered consecutively as authorized, and the bonds of each issue shall be numbered consecutively. The board of directors shall fix the date of said bonds, or may divide any issue into two or more divisions and fix different dates for the bonds of each respective division. The date of any bond must be subsequent to the election at which its issuance was authorized and prior to its delivery to a purchaser from the district. The date of issue of any bond authorized under this act or heretofore or hereafter issued in pursuance of this act shall be deemed to be the apparent date of the said bond appearing on the face thereof. Each shall be signed by the president and secretary of the board of directors of the district, who may be in office at the date of said bond or at any time thereafter prior to the delivery of said bond to the purchaser thereof from the district, and the seal of the district shall be impressed on each bond. The interest coupons shall also bear the signature of the secretary of the board of directors who may be in office at the date of said bond or at any time thereafter prior to the delivery of said bond to the purchaser thereof from the district, or a facsimile of such signature. The board of directors shall fix the denominations of said bonds, which shall not be less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars. Said bonds shall bear interest at a rate to be fixed by the board of directors, but the rate shall not exceed six per centum per annum. The interest shall be payable on the first day of January and the first day of July of each year. The board of directors shall also designate the place or places at which said bonds or any of them and the interest thereon shall be payable.[1] Said bonds shall be payable in gold coin of the United States. Bonds shall be made payable on the first day of January or the first day of July of the years designated by the board of directors but in no case shall the maturity of any bond be more than fifty years from the date thereof. Each bond shall be made payable at a given time for its full face value and not for a percentage thereof. The board of directors may, with the approval of the California bond certification commission, provide for the call and redemption of any of said bonds in numerical order, or by lot, on any interest payment date prior to their fixed maturity, at not exceeding the par value thereof and accrued interest, in which event a statement to that effect shall be set forth in the face of the bond. Notice of such redemption shall be published once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation printed and published within the county in which the office of the district is located, the first publication of which shall be at least thirty days prior to the date fixed for such redemption. After the date fixed for such redemption, if the district shall have provided funds available for the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds so called, interest on said bonds thereafter shall cease.[1] (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 777.)

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[1] Art. XI, Sec. 13½, of the Constitution, authorizes the payment of bonds and interest in any place within or outside of the United States.

Date of maturity of bonds and time of payment of interest.
*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *DeLappe*, 79 Cal. 351, 21 Pac. 825;
*Stowell* vs. *Rialto Irr. Dist.*, 155 Cal. 215, 100 Pac. 248;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Peterson* (Ore.), 128 Pac. 837.

Date of issue, signature of secretary, etc.
*Wright* vs. *East Riverside District*, 138 Fed. 313;
*Hooker* vs. *East Riverside District*, 38 Cal. App. 615, 177 Pac. 184.

Negotiability of bonds.
*Farwell* vs. *S. J. and P. V. Irr. Dist.*, 49 Cal. App. 167, 192 Pac. 1031.

Redemption of bonds.
(See section 52, *infra.*)
Taxpayer's suit.
*Sechrist* vs. *Rialto Irr. Dist.*, 129 Cal. 640, 62 Pac. 261;
*Henry* vs. *Vineland Irr. Dist.*, 140 Cal. 376, 73 Pac. 1061.
(See also section 69, *infra.*)

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[1] The act of 1931 (Stats. 1931, Chap. 318) which amended sections 31 and 32a and added sections 32b, 32c, 32d and 32e, also contained the following:

"SEC. 7. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this act is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or unenforceable, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act. The Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this act and each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase hereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more of the sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or unenforceable.

SEC. 8. This act shall not invalidate any act done, or any action or proceeding had or commenced before this act takes effect. All proceedings commenced prior to the effective date hereof shall be completed in accordance with the provisions of this act and all acts and proceedings commenced before but not completed until after the effective date of this act, whether relating to the authorization, issuance, exchange, sale or delivery of funding or refunding bonds, or otherwise, shall be valid and legally binding if taken in accordance with the provisions of this act.

SEC. 9. This act shall take effect immediately.

SEC. 10. This act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure within the meaning of section 1 of article four of the constitution of the State of California and it is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety that this law shall go into immediate effect. The following is a statement of the facts constituting such urgency:

Many irrigation districts organized under the laws of this state have issued bonds for the purpose of acquiring works for the distribution of water to the lands within such districts for irrigation and domestic use, which bonds mature in whole or in part on July 1, 1931. If this amendment does not go into effect until ninety days after the final adjournment of this session of the Legislature, such districts will be unable to take advantage of the provisions hereof prior to July 1, 1931. Unless such bonds and interest coupons are refunded pursuant to the provisions of this amendment such districts must advance large cash payments for maturing bonds and interest coupons on that date, thereby leaving them without sufficient funds to enable them to operate properly and efficiently their distribution works. The proper and efficient operation of such works is necessary for the purpose of furnishing water for irrigation and domestic use to the landowners within such districts and also to certain municipalities which are dependent entirely upon such districts for their source of water supply. The failure of such district to make proper distribution thereof would be a menace to the public health of the inhabitants of such districts and of the municipalities aforesaid. If, however, the provisions of this amendment become a law immediately, such districts will be able to refund their bonds and coupons on or before July 1, 1931, thereby enabling such districts to utilize all available funds for the proper operation of their works for supplying and distributing water."

Validity of bonds in hands of bona fide holders.

*Stimson* vs. *Alessandro Dist.*, 135 Cal. 389, 67 Pac. 496;
*Baxter* vs. *Vineland Dist.*, 136 Cal. 185, 68 Pac. 601;
*Haese* vs *Heitzeg*, 159 Cal. 569, 114 Pac. 816;
*Ham* vs. *Grapeland Dist.*, 172 Cal. 611, 158 Pac. 207;
*Tulare Dist.* vs. *Shepard*, 185 U. S. 1.

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*Turner* vs. *Rosebury Irr. Dist.* (Idaho), 198 Pac. 465.

Art. XI, Sec. 13½, of the Constitution, authorizes the payment of bonds and interest in any place within or outside of the United States.

**Sale of Bonds.**

SEC. 32. The board may sell said bonds from time to time in such quantities as may be necessary and most advantageous to raise money for the construction of said canals and works, the acquisition of said property and rights, or the acquisition of any water or water rights, and otherwise to fully carry out the objects and purposes of this act. Before making any sale the board shall, at a meeting, by resolution, declare its intention to sell a specified amount of the bonds, and the day and hour and place of such sale, and shall cause such resolution to be entered in the minutes, and notice of the sale to be given, by publication thereof at least three weeks in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the board of directors is located and in any other newspaper at its discretion. The notice shall state that sealed proposals will be received by the board at their office, for the purchase of bonds, till the day and hour named in the resolution. At the time appointed the board shall open the proposals and award the purchase of the bonds or any portion or portions thereof to the highest responsible bidder or bidders; provided, however, that they may reject any or all bids; and provided, further, that no proposal shall be accepted which is not accompanied by a certified check for such reasonable percentage of the amount of the bid as shall be determined by the board of directors, but in no event less than two per cent of the amount thereof to apply on the purchase price of the bonds, the amount of which check shall be forfeited if after the acceptance of the proposal the bidder shall refuse to accept said bonds and complete his purchase thereof on the conditions stated in his proposal. In case no award is made, the board thereafter may either readvertise said bonds or any part thereof for sale or sell the same or any part thereof at private sale but no sale of said bonds at private sale shall be valid unless approved by the California bond certification commission. (Stats. 1921, p. 1108.)

*Leeman* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 140 Cal. 540, 74 Pac. 24;
*Stimson* vs. *Alessandro Irr. Dist.*, 135 Cal. 389, 67 Pac. 496;
*Kinkade* vs. *Witherop* (Wash.), 69 Pac. 399;
*Wyman* vs. *Searle* (Nebr.), 128 N. W. 801.

**Funding or Refunding Bonds; Alternative Procedure; Election; Maturities; Rate of Interest.**

SEC. 32a. The board of directors of any irrigation district organized under or subject to the provisions of this act may as hereinafter provided cause funding or refunding bonds to be issued for the purpose of funding or refunding any or all outstanding bonds of the district. Such funding or refunding bonds shall, except as otherwise provided herein, be issued in substantially the manner and form prescribed by this act for the issuance of other bonds of irrigation districts, and the provisions of this act and of the act creating the California bond certification commission concerning the authorization, certification, issuance and sale of bonds of irrigation districts shall be applicable to bonds issued under this section; provided, however, that no survey, examination, drawing, plan, estimate or report of the California bond certification commission as provided in sections 30, 30a, and 30b hereof shall be required to be made, nor shall any resolution of the board of directors that the proposed plan of works is satisfactory as prescribed by section 30b hereof be required to be adopted, but in lieu thereof the board of directors of any district desiring to fund or refund any of its bonds may submit to the California bond certification commission its proposed plan for funding or refunding such bonds. The board of directors of any district may make such expenditures or, with the approval of the California bond certification commission, may incur indebtedness, and issue warrants therefor, for the purpose of paying the cost and expenses incident to any such plan or in connection with such funding or refunding. If such plan is approved by said commission, the board of directors of such district shall call an election for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of such funding or refunding bonds. Such election shall be called and held and the result thereof determined and declared substantially in the same manner as provided by this act for the issuance of other bonds of such districts, except that a majority vote only shall be required for the authorization of such funding or refunding bonds. The maturity or maturities of said funding or refunding bonds shall be fixed by the board of directors of such district subject to the approval of the California bond certification commission, but in no case shall the maturity of any of said bonds be more than fifty years from the date thereof. The rate of interest on such bonds shall not exceed six per centum per annum, payable semiannually. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 777.)

See *City of Long Beach* vs. *Lisenby*, 180 Cal. 52, 179 Pac. 198, re definition of "refunding bonds."
See footnote to Sec. 31, *ante*.

### Redemption of Funding or Refunding Bonds; Sinking Fund; Assessments for Purposes of.

SEC. 32b. Any issue of such funding or refunding bonds may, in the discretion of the board of directors, mature serially or at one time, but if any issue of such bonds shall mature at one time the board of directors prior to or at the time of the issuance of such bonds shall provide for the creation of an annual sinking fund for the payment of such bonds in such amounts as may be determined by the board of directors with the approval of the California bond certification commission; and the board of directors, anything in this act to the contrary notwithstanding, shall each year at the same time and in the same manner as other assessments in the district are levied and collected, levy and collect an assessment upon all of the lands in the district, in addition to all other assessments in this act required or permitted to be levied and collected, sufficient to provide the amounts of such sinking fund payments for the then current year; provided that the amount of such sinking fund payments may be modified from time to time by the board of directors with the approval of the California bond certification commission. Whenever such sinking fund shall contain at least ten thousand dollars, the board of directors shall by notice published at least once a week for three successive weeks in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the district is located, and, in its discretion, in any other newspaper or newspapers, invite sealed proposals for the sale to the district of any of its outstanding funding or refunding bonds, for the payment of which such sinking fund was created. Said notice shall state the amount available for the redemption of such bonds and shall specify the time and place when such proposals will be opened. All such proposals shall be opened by the board of directors in open meeting at the time specified in said notice, or at some subsequent time to which such meeting shall be adjourned. Any or all of such proposals may be rejected, in the discretion of the board of directors. If no bids are received, or if the bids received and accepted are not sufficient to exhaust the moneys so on hand and available for the purpose, the board of directors may purchase at private sale with any available money in the sinking fund, any of said bonds for the payment of which such sinking fund was created. No proposal to sell bonds to the district at a price in excess of the par value thereof shall be accepted. All bonds so purchased from sinking fund moneys shall be forthwith canceled. The board of directors may invest any money in the sinking fund in bonds of the United States or of the State of California and shall hold the bonds so purchased together with the income therefrom, as part of the sinking fund until such time as the board of directors may determine that it is for the best interests of the district that such bonds or any of them be sold. The proceeds of sale of any bonds in which any part of said sinking fund shall be invested shall be deposited in the sinking fund.

The board of directors may, with the approval of the California bond certification commission, by resolution adopted at or prior to the time of issuing any funding or refunding bonds, provide for the call and redemption of any of its funding or refunding bonds, in numerical order, or by lot, as may be prescribed in said resolution, on any interest payment date prior to their fixed maturity, at not exceeding the par value thereof and accrued interest, in which event a statement to that effect shall be set forth on the face of the bond. Notice of such redemption shall be published once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation printed and published within the county in which the office of the district is located. The first publication of such notice shall be not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days prior to the date fixed for such redemption. After the date fixed for such redemption, if the district shall have provided funds available for the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds so called, interest on said bonds thereafter shall cease.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein contained, the board of directors shall not be required to levy any such assessment for said sinking fund for said current year if the district shall have on hand surplus funds from other sources available for said sinking fund payment and shall have deposited the same in said sinking fund; and if the district shall have on hand funds available for the payment of a portion only of said sinking fund payment and shall have deposited the same in said sinking fund, said assessment for sinking fund purposes for such year shall be so levied as to provide only for raising the amount by which the amount of such sinking fund payment shall exceed the amount deposited in said sinking fund, as aforesaid. (Stats. 1931, p. 777.)

See footnote to Sec. 31, *ante*.

### Sale or Exchange of Funding or Refunding Bonds.

Sec. 32c. Any funding or refunding bonds herein provided for may be sold from time to time in the same manner as other bonds of the district, or, may be exchanged for such other bonds of the district upon such terms and conditions as may be approved by the California bond certification commission. Any such outstanding bonds so funded or refunded or exchanged shall be immediately canceled by the treasurer. (Stats. 1931, p. 777.)

See footnote to Sec. 31, *ante*.

### Principal or Interest on Funding or Refunding Bonds May Be Made Payable From Proceeds of Contracts, Etc.

Sec. 32d. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this act contained, if in the judgment of the board of directors it is desirable that the principal and/or interest of any funding or refunding bonds issued pursuant to this act, or any part of such principal or interest, shall be payable solely from the proceeds, or any part thereof, of any existing or proposed contract or contracts of the district for the sale of water and/or electricity, or otherwise, or from any other source or sources of payment, other than assessments, the board of directors may, with the approval of the California bond certification commission so provide by resolution adopted at or prior to the time of the issuance of such bonds. In case the board of directors shall determine that the principal of any funding or refunding bonds issued pursuant to this act, or any part of such principal, shall be payable only from the proceeds of any such contract or contracts or other source or sources of payment, other than assessments, it shall cause a brief statement of such limitations upon the payment of said principal, or portion thereof, to be set forth in such bonds; and in case such limitations shall affect the payment of the interest of such bonds or any part thereof, a statement of such limitations shall be set forth in the interest coupons representing such interest and also in the bonds to which such interest coupons are appurtenant. If such limitations shall affect the payment of a portion only of the interest which shall accrue on any funding or refunding bonds issued pursuant to this act, the board of directors may either provide that the entire installment of interest payable on any interest payment date shall be represented by a single coupon which shall contain a brief statement as to the portion of such interest, the payment of which is subject to such limitations, or, in its discretion, said board may provide that the portion of said interest the payment of which is not subject to such limitations and the portion of such interest the payment of which is subject to such limitations shall be represented by separate interest coupons, the coupon representing such portion of the interest as to which such limitations upon payment exist containing a brief statement of such limitations. (Stats. 1931, p. 777.)

See footnote to Sec. 31, *ante*.

### Irrevocable Allocation of Proceeds of Contract, Etc., to Payment of Principal or Interest of Bonds; Designation and Change of Banking Agency.

SEC. 32e. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this act contained, the proceeds of any existing or proposed contract or contracts, or source or sources of payment, or any portion thereof, designated by said board, may by resolution of said board be allocated to the payment of the principal and/or interest of any bonds of the district, including funding or refunding bonds, or of any portion of such principal or interest designated by said board, and after such allocation and until the payment or retirement of the bonds for the benefit of which such allocation was made, such proceeds or other source or sources of payment, or portion thereof, so designated by said board, shall be applied solely to the payment of the obligation specified in such resolution. Such allocation may be made for the exclusive benefit of any one or more issues of bonds of the district, or portions thereof, designated in such resolution, or, in the discretion of said board, for the benefit of any bonds of the district at any time issued or outstanding. Any such allocation shall be irrevocable until all of such bonds and their appurtenant coupons shall have been paid or retired. In the event that the board of directors, with the approval of the California bond certification commission, shall, pursuant to this act, provide that the principal and/or interest of any bonds, or any portion of such principal and/or interest, shall be payable solely from the proceeds of any such contract or contracts, or other source or sources of payment, other than assessments, neither the district nor any officer thereof shall be holden for such payment otherwise.

The district may also, with the approval of said commission, designate any bank or trust company or banks or trust companies to act as its agent or agents for the purpose of making payment of the principal and/or interest of any of its bonds, including its funding or refunding bonds, and/or receiving the payments under any contract or contracts for the sale of water or electricity or any revenues from any other source or sources, so allocated by said board to the payment of the principal and/or interest, or any part thereof, of any such bonds, and/or for the purpose of applying such payments to the payment of such principal or interest, or portion thereof, so designated; and the district, with the consent of said commission, may from time to time substitute another bank or trust company or other banks or trust companies in the place of the bank or trust company or banks or trust companies so designated, and similarily, may substitute another bank or trust company or other banks or trust companies in the place of any bank or trust company or banks or trust companies substituted as aforesaid. (Stats. 1931, p. 777.)

See footnote to Sec. 31, *ante*.

SEC. 32½. (This section, relating to election on sale of bonds at less than par, was repealed by Stats. 1931, p. 121.)

### Paid by Annual Assessment.

SEC. 33. Said bonds and the interest thereon shall be paid from revenue derived from an annual assessment upon the land within the district; and all the land within the district shall be and remain liable to be assessed for such payments as hereinafter provided. (Stats. 1917, p. 764.)

Procedure for enforcement of lien.

*Nevada Nat'l Bank* vs. *Poso Irr. Dist.*, 140 Cal. 344, 73 Pac. 1056;
*Boskowitz* vs. *Thompson*, 144 Cal. 724, 78 Pac. 290;
*Herring* vs. *Modesto Irr. Dist.*, 95 Fed. 705;
*Perkins* vs. *People* (Colo.), 147 Pac. 356;
*Henrylyn Irr. Dist.* vs. *Thomas* (Colo.), 173 Pac. 541;
*Henrylyn Irr. Dist.* vs. *Thomas* (Colo.), 181 Pac. 979, 980;
*Rialto Irr. Dist.* vs. *Stowell*, 246 Fed. 294;
*Norris* vs. *Montezuma Irr. Dist.*, 248 Fed. 369;
*Gas Securities Co.* vs. *Antero & Lost Park etc. Co.*, 259 Fed. 423.

Suit by bondholders to enforce payment.

*Quinton* vs. *Equitable Investment Co.*, 196 Fed. 314.

The assessments, not the bonds, are a lien on the land.

*Clark* vs. *Demers* (Mont.), 254 Pac. 162;
*Kollock* vs. *Barnard* (Ore.), 242 Pac. 847;
*Dougery* vs. *Bettencourt*, 82 Cal. Dec. 325, 2 P. (2d) 803.

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*Farwell* vs. *San Jacinto, etc., Irr. Dist.*, 49 Cal. App. 167, 192 Pac. 1034.

## ASSESSMENT FOR COMPLETION OF WORKS

### Assessment; Notice of Special Election; Ballots.

SEC. 34. In case the money raised by the sale of bonds issued be insufficient, or in case the bonds be unavailable for the completion of the plan of canal and works adopted, and the acquisition of the necessary property, waters and water rights therefor, and additional bonds be not voted, it shall be the duty of the board of directors to provide for the completion of said plan, and the acquisition of such necessary property, waters and water rights, by levy of assessments therefor; provided, however, that such levy of assessments shall not be made except first an estimate of the amount required for such purposes has been made by said board, and the question as to the making of said levy submitted to a vote of the electors of the district. Before such question is submitted the order of submission shall be entered in the minutes of the board, stating the amount to be levied and the purpose therefor, and if submitted at a special election said order shall, in addition, fix the day of election. Notice of such election must be given by posting notices in three public places in each election precinct in said district for at least twenty days, and also by publication of such notice in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the board of directors of such district is required to be kept once a week for at least three successive weeks. Such notices must specify the time of holding the election, and the amount of assessment proposed to be levied. Said election must be held and the result thereof determined and declared in all respects as nearly as practicable in conformity with the provisions of this act governing the election of officers; provided, that no informalities in conducting such an election shall invalidate the same, if the election shall have been otherwise fairly conducted. At such election the ballots shall contain the words "Assessment—Yes", or "Assessment—No", or words equivalent thereto. If a majority of the votes cast are "Assessment—Yes", the board of directors shall cause an assessment in the amount named in the order of submission to be levied; if a majority of the votes cast are "Assessment—No", the result of such election shall be so declared and entered of record. (Stats. 1911, p. 514.)

*Cooper* vs. *Miller*, 113 Cal. 238, 45 Pac. 325;
*In re Bonds of So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 161 Cal. 345, 119 Pac. 198;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Dist.*, 173 Cal. 668, 161 Pac. 116;
*Corson* vs. *Crocker*, 31 Cal. App. 626, 161 Pac. 287;
*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491;
*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.*, 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 223.

## DUTIES OF THE ASSESSOR

### Assessment Book; Duty to Prepare; Improvements Exempt.

Sec. 35. The assessor must, between the first Monday in March and the first Monday in June, in each year, assess all land in the district, which shall include city and town lots, to the persons who own, claim or have possession or control thereof, at its full cash value, as follows: He must prepare an assessment book with appropriate headings, in which must be listed all such property within the district, giving: (1) the name of the person to whom the property is assessed, and if the name is not known to the assessor, the property shall be assessed to "unknown owners"; (2) a description of the land sufficient to identify it, with an estimate of the number of acres, except in the case of city or town lots; (3) the cash value of the land. A column or columns with the headings "Lot" and "Block" or either of them may be provided for the designation of the lots and blocks, or either of them, in any city or town or recorded subdivision. If any land in the district is subject to a different rate of assessment from the other lands in the district it shall be separately designated and described. Said book shall also contain a column for showing the valuations after equalization by the board of directors, and shall be arranged to show such other facts as the board of directors may require. Improvements on any land within the districts shall be exempt from assessment for any of the purposes mentioned in this act. The term improvements as used in this section includes trees, vines, alfalfa and all growing crops and all buildings and structures of whatever class or description. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 233.)

Pol. Code., Sec. 3653, provides that, upon written request, the county assessor must furnish the district with a certified copy of the assessment book, so far as it pertains to property within the district.

Property exempt from assessment when devoted to a public use, otherwise not.
*Recl. Dist.* vs. *East Bay, etc., Dist.*, 91 Cal. App. 149, 266 Pac. 969;
*Inglewood* vs. *Los Angeles*, 207 Cal. 697, 284 Pac. 906;
*City of Fresno* vs. *Fresno Irr. Dist.*, 72 Cal. App. 503, 237 Pac. 772;
*Cooper* vs. *Miller*, 113 Cal. 238, 45 Pac. 325;
*Escondido H. S. Dist.* vs. *Escondido Seminary*, 130 Cal. 128, 62 Pac. 401;
*W. U. Tel. Co.* vs. *Modesto Irr. Dist.*, 149 Cal. 662, 87 Pac. 190;
*Best* vs. *Wohlford*, 144 Cal. 733, 78 Pac. 293;
*Best* vs. *Wohlford*, 153 Cal. 17, 94 Pac. 98;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 668, 161 Pac. 116;
*Corson* vs. *Crocker*, 31 Cal. App. 626, 161 Pac. 237;
*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper*, 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 783, 227 Pac. 171;
*Wores* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 193 Cal. 609, 227 Pac. 181.

Railroad property may be assessed.
*Southern Pacific Co.* vs. *Stibbens*, 103 Cal. App. 664, 285 Pac. 374.

Escaped or omitted assessment, see Secs. 35b, 39e, *post*.

### "Assessment Book" Defined.

Sec. 35a. The term "assessment book" as used in this act is hereby defined to include any substantial record showing the data required by this act, whether in the form of a bound volume or volumes or on cards so arranged and kept as to provide a record of the assessments. (Stats. 1929, p. 161.)

### Lands Which Have Escaped Assessment; Former Assessment to Be Included in Current.

SEC. 35b. Any land which may have escaped the payment of any assessment, whether because of the omission of the land from the assessment book or because of illegality in the levying thereof or any proceedings relating thereto, shall, in addition to its assessment for the then current year, be entered in the assessment book by the assessor at the valuation which he may deem proper for the year of the escaped assessment. Such additional assessment shall be subject to equalization as is provided in this act for the current assessment, and at the time of levying the assessment for the current year the board of directors of the district shall levy on said land an assessment at the rate fixed in the year of the escaped assessment, or, if no rate was legally fixed in that year, the board shall levy an assessment on said land at the rate which should have been computed in that year to raise the amount of money then required by the district. Any such additional assessment shall be payable at the same time or times as the current assessment, and if not paid, shall be subject to like penalties and proceedings to enforce its collection. (Stats. 1931, p. 233.)

See Secs. 39e, *post*, 35 *ante*.

### Petition for Special Rate of Assessment; Hearing and Determination.

SEC. 35c. Anyone having an interest in any land within the district may file with the secretary of the board of directors a verified petition, alleging that said land, or some described portion thereof, was, when it became a part of the district, irrigated from another system of works than the works of or proposed for the district and has continued ever since to be exclusively so irrigated and is entitled to a special rate of assessment, and praying the board to determine what proportion or part of the regular rates of assessment in the district should be used in levying assessments on the land described in the petition. The board shall set a time and place for the hearing of said petition, or of all of the petitions so filed if more than one has been filed, and shall cause notice thereof to be given in a newspaper published in the county wherein the office of the district is located. The notice shall state that a petition has been, or petitions have been presented to the board praying for a determination that certain lands described therein, but which need not be described in the notice, are entitled to a special rate or rates of assessment and giving the names of the petitioner, or petitioners, and the time and place set for the hearing. The board shall meet at the time and place so set and proceed in such order as it may deem proper, to hear the petition or petitions and shall hear all competent and relevant evidence offered in support of any petition or in opposition thereto, and may adjourn the hearing from time to time. A fee of ten dollars must be paid to the secretary before the filing of any such petition, and the money shall be applied to the cost of the publication of the notice and other expenses of the hearing. If there shall be any balance after the conclusion of the hearing, it shall be returned to the petitioner or divided among the petitioners contributing thereto in proportion to the respective areas described in their petitions. After the conclusion of the hearing, if the board shall find that any of the land described in any petition or petitions has been irrigated as alleged and is not and will not be so benefited by the operations of the district as to justify its assessment at the same rate as other lands in the district not so irrigated, which rate may be referred to as the regular rate of assessment, the board shall, in an order or resolution which shall be entered in full upon its minutes, describe the land entitled to a special rate of assessment, or the respective parcels thereof if separate parcels are to be assessed, and shall determine and fix the proportion or part of the regular rate of assessment which shall be applied in levying assessments on said land, or on each parcel thereof if various parcels are found to be entitled to different special rates, in order that the assessments to be levied on said land may be in accordance with the benefits which it receives or will receive from the operations of the district. If the board shall determine that any land is entitled to a special rate of assessment, a certified copy of the order or resolution so determining shall be delivered to the assessor, and thereafter, until notified of a change in such determination, he shall enter the land described herein separately in the assessment book and so designate it that it may readily be distinguished from other land not entitled to a special rate. If such a determination is made in any year too late for the land to be separately described in the assessment book, but before the annual assessment has been levied, the board shall direct the secretary to make such entries in the assessment book as will enable him to compute the assessments at the special rate or rates determined by the board. If the board shall have determined that any land is entitled to a special rate of assessment, the rates of assessment in the district shall be so computed as to be sufficient to produce the sum to be raised after deducting fifteen per cent from the assessed valuation as provided in section 60 of this act. The determination of the board with respect to any land after a hearing as aforesaid shall not be changed unless the board, on petition of a party affected, shall consent to another hearing, or on its own motion shall cause notice to be served on the owner of the land to show cause why the determination should not be changed, in either of which cases another hearing shall be advertised and held as hereinabove provided. (Stats. 1931, p. 233.)

### Deputy Assessors.

SEC. 36. The board of directors must allow the assessor as many deputies, to be appointed by him, as will, in the judgment of the board, enable him to complete the assessment within the time herein prescribed. The board must fix the compensation of such deputies, which shall be paid out of the treasury of the district. The compensation must not exceed five dollars per day for each deputy, for the time actually engaged, nor must any allowance be made but for work done between the first Monday in March and the first Monday in August in each year.

See *ante*, p. 73, *"Appointment of Deputies."*

### Completion of Assessment Book; Notice of Equalization of Assessments.

SEC. 37. On or before the first Monday in August in each year, the assessor must complete his assessment book, and deliver it to the secretary of the board, who must immediately give notice thereof, and of the time when the board of directors, acting as a board of equalization, will meet to equalize assessments, by publication at least two times in a newspaper published in the county in which the office of the district is located, and if the district includes land in more than one county, then said notice shall be published at least two times in a newspaper in each county in which any portion of the district is situated. Said notice or notices shall be first published at least twenty days and not more than thirty days before the time fixed for said meeting. Failure so to publish such notice in any county other than that in which the office of the district is located shall not affect the validity of any assessment on land in a county in which notice was published as herein provided. In the meantime the assessment book must remain in the office of the secretary for the inspection of all persons interested. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 233.)

*Lahman* vs. *Hatch*, 124 Cal. 1, 56 Pac. 621;
*N. P. Ry. Co.* vs. *John Day Irr. Dist.* (Oregon), 211 Pac. 781, 789;
*Wores* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 193 Cal. 609, 227 Pac. 181;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100.

## EQUALIZATION OF ASSESSMENT

### Hearings on Objections to Assessments.

SEC. 38. Upon the day specified in the notice required by the preceding section for the meeting, the board of directors, which is hereby constituted a board of equalization for that purpose, shall meet and continue in session from time to time, as long as may be necessary, not to exceed ten days, exclusive of Sundays, to hear and determine such objections to the valuation, acreage, or any matter pertaining to the assessment as may come before them; and the board may make such changes thereof as may be just. The secretary of the board shall be present during its session, and make all changes ordered in the assessment book; and within ten days after the close of the session he shall have the total values, as finally equalized by the board, extended into columns and added. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 233.)

*Lahman* vs. *Hatch*, 124 Cal. 1, 56 Pac. 621;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 668, 161 Pac. 116;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Supervisors*, 189 Cal. 254, 208 Pac. 304;
*Wores* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 193 Cal. 609, 227 Pac. 181.

## LEVY AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS

### Assessment For Interest, Principal, Rentals, Etc.

SEC. 39. The board of directors shall then, within fifteen days after the close of its session as a board of equalization, levy an assessment upon the lands within the district in an amount sufficient to raise the interest due or that will become due on all outstanding bonds of the district on the first day of the next ensuing January and the first day of the next ensuing July, or that the board of directors believes will become due on either or both of said dates, on bonds authorized but not sold; also sufficient to pay the principal of all bonds of the district that have matured or that will mature before the close of the next ensuing calendar year; also sufficient to pay in full all sums due or that will become due from the district before the close of the next ensuing calendar year on account of rentals, or charges for lands, water, water rights or other property acquired by said district under lease or contract; also sufficient to pay in full all sums due or that will become due from the district, before the close of the next ensuing calendar year on account of contracts entered into by the district for power or fuel used or to be used for the pumping of water for the irrigation of land within the district; provided, the payment of the cost of such power or fuel has not been provided for by the levying of tolls or charges for the use of water or otherwise; also sufficient to pay in full the amount of all unpaid warrants of the district issued in accordance with this act and the amount of any other contracts or obligations of the district which shall have been reduced to judgment; also such an amount as the board of directors may determine is necessary, to be set aside as a depreciation fund for the replacement or reconstruction of any specific unit or units of its works; also sufficient to raise such amount not exceeding two per centum of the aggregate value of the lands within the district according to the latest duly equalized assessment roll thereof, as the board of directors shall determine may be needed to be raised by assessment for any of the purposes of this act. The board of directors may also include in any annual assessment such an amount as it may deem proper, not exceeding one per centum of the total assessed value of the land in the district, to be apportioned to the bond fund and to be used as provided in section 52 of this act, for the redemption or purchase of bonds of the district not yet due, or for the creation of a sinking fund to pay any of such bonds as they become due; provided, however, that notwithstanding any provision of this act or any act amendatory hereof, or supplementary hereto, the board of directors may in lieu, either in whole or in part, of levying the annual assessment for the payment of interest on or principal of bonds, or for any other purposes of this act, use any income or revenue of the district derived from the sale of electric power or from the sale or lease of water or the use of water for power purposes. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 122.)

Mandamus is the proper remedy to collect a judgment against an irrigation district.

*Thompson* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 116 Fed. 769;
*Board of Sup'rs* vs. *Thompson*, 122 Fed. 860.

Assessments on *ad valorem* basis constitutional.

*In re Madera Irr. Dist.*, 92 Cal. 296, 28 Pac. 272, 675.

Payment under protest.

*Decker* vs. *Perry*, 4 Cal. Unrep. 488.

"Outstanding bonds" defined.

*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea*, 88 Cal. 334, 356, 26 Pac. 237.

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*Cooper* vs. *Miller*, 113 Cal. 238, 45 Pac. 325;
*Hughson* vs. *Crane*, 115 Cal. 404, 47 Pac. 120;
*Lahman* vs. *Hatch*, 124 Cal. 1, 56 Pac. 621;
*Escondido H. S. Dist.* vs. *Escondido Seminary*, 130 Cal. 128, 62 Pac. 401;
*Baxter* vs. *Vineland Irr. Dist.*, 136 Cal. 185, 68 Pac. 601;
*Boskowitz* vs. *Thompson*, 144 Cal. 724, 78 Pac. 290;
*Nevada Nat'l Bank* vs. *Poso Dist.*, 149 Cal. 662, 87 Pac. 190;
*In re Bonds of South San Joaquin Dist.*, 161 Cal. 345, 119 Pac. 198;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113;
*Hewel* vs. *Hogin*, 3 Cal. App. 248, 84 Pac. 1082;
*Nevada Nat'l Bank* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 5 Cal. App. 638, 91 Pac. 122;
*Corson* vs. *Crocker*, 31 Cal. App. 626, 161 Pac. 287;
*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491;
*Board of Sup'rs* vs. *Thompson*, 122 Fed. 860;
*Marra* vs. *S. J. and P. V. Irr. Dist.*, 131 Fed. 780;

*Eberhard* vs. *Canon* (Colo.), 157 Pac. 189;
*Rio Grande, etc., Co.* vs. *Orchard Mesa Dist.* (Colo.), 171 Pac. 367;
*Nelson* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 92, 196 Pac. 292;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 189 Cal. 254, 208 Pac. 304;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171;
*McDonough* vs. *Cooper*, 179 Cal. 384, 177 Pac. 153;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100;
*People* vs. *Honey Lake Valley Irr. Dist.*, 77 Cal. App. 367, 246 Pac. 819;
*Noble* vs. *Yancey* (Ore.), 241 Pac. 335;
*Willard et al.* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 726, 258 Pac. 959;
*Wores* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 193 Cal. 609, 227 Pac. 181.

### Duty of Secretary.

SEC. 39a. The secretary of the board must compute and enter in a separate column of the assessment book the respective sums in dollars and cents to be paid as an assessment on the property therein enumerated. When collected, the assessment shall be paid into the district treasury and be apportioned to the several proper funds. (Stats. 1917, p. 765.)

*McDonough* vs. *Cooper*, 179 Cal. 384, 177 Pac. 153.

### Neglect to Make Assessment.

SEC. 39b. If as the result of the neglect or refusal of the board of directors to cause such assessment and levies to be made as in this act provided, then the duly equalized assessment made by the county assessor of the county or each of the respective counties in which the district is situated shall be the basis of assessment for the district, and the board of supervisors of the county in which the office of the board of directors of said district is situated shall cause an assessment roll of said district to be prepared, and shall make the levy required by this act, in the same manner and with like effect as if the same had been made by said board of directors and all expenses incident thereto shall be borne by such district and may be collected by suit at law, which shall be commenced by the district attorney of the county whose board of supervisors caused said assessment roll to be prepared, unless the amount of such expenses shall be paid within sixty days from the time when proper demand shall have been made therefor. In case of the neglect or refusal of the collector or treasurer of any irrigation district to perform the duties imposed by law, then the tax collector and the treasurer of the county in which the office of the board of directors of such district is situated must respectively perform such duties and shall be accountable therefor upon their official bonds; but, in case any county tax collector shall collect any assessment for any irrigation district, he shall pay the same to the county treasurer, who shall place such money in special fund to the credit of the district, and shall disburse the same to the proper person for the purposes for which such assessments have been levied and shall not pay any part thereof to the treasurer of said district until said county treasurer shall be satisfied that all of the valid obligations for which such assessments were levied and for which payment has been demanded have been paid. (Stats. 1917, p. 765.)

### Duty of District Attorney.

SEC. 39c. It shall be the duty of the district attorney of each county in which the office of any irrigation district is located to ascertain each year whether the duties relating to the levying and collection of assessments, as in this act provided, have been performed, and if he shall learn that the board of directors or any official of any such irrigation district has neglected or refused to perform any such duty, said district attorney shall so notify the board of supervisors or the county official required by this act to perform such duty in such case, and, unless such board of supervisors or such county official shall proceed to the performance of such duty within thirty days after the receipt of such notice the district attorney shall take such action in court as may be necessary to compel the performance of such duty, and said district attorney shall give such notice to other officials, and shall take such action, as may be necessary to secure the performance in their proper sequence of the other duties relating to the levying and collection of assessments, as in this act provided, that for the enforcement of the levying and collection of any assessment hereafter required to be levied and collected for the payment of any debt hereafter incurred, in case complaint shall be made to the attorney general of the State of California that the district attorney of any county has not performed any duty devolving upon him by the provisions of this section, or that he is not proceeding with due diligence or in the proper manner in the performance of any such duty, the attorney general shall make an investigation, and if it shall be found that such charge or charges are true, said attorney general shall take such measures as may be necessary to enforce the performance of the duties relating to the levying and collection of assessments, as in this act provided. (Stats. 1917, p. 766.)

*Marra* vs. *S. J. and P. V. Irr. Dist.,* 131 Fed. 780.

### Extension of Time.

SEC. 39d. If as the result of the neglect or refusal of any official or officials to perform any duty relating to the levying and collection of assessments, as in this act provided, it shall be impossible for such duty to be performed within the time required and such duty shall subsequently be performed, then the time within which all duties consequent upon the performance of such duty shall be performed shall be extended so as to allow the elapsing of the intervals required by this act to elapse between the performance of such duties, and the assessments herein provided for shall not become delinquent for at least thirty days after the first publication of the notice that such assessments are due and payable, as provided in section 41 of this act. (Stats. 1917, p. 767.)

### Assessment of Land Omitted.

SEC. 39e. In the event any land within said district subject to assessment for the purposes of the district has not been assessed by the county assessor or does not appear upon the county assessment roll adopted by said board of supervisors as the basis of assessment for the district, the land so omitted belonging to any person, association, corporation, or municipality shall be forthwith assessed by the county assessor upon an order of the board of supervisors and a description of the property so omitted shall be written in the roll prepared for the purpose of district assessments. In such case, before any assessment is levied, the board of supervisors must meet and equalize said assessment with that of the assessment of other lands in said district. The same notice shall be given by the board of supervisors of such meeting for purpose of equalizing the assessment to be made as herein directed as is provided in this act to be given by the board of directors of an irrigation district when the said board is to meet for the purpose of equalizing assessments. All the powers and duties respecting the collection of all assessment on possession of, claim to, or right to the possession of land now provided in sections 3820, 3821, 3822, 3823, 3824, 3825 and 3829 of the Political Code, as regards county assessors shall apply, so far as applicable to irrigation district assessors. (Stats. 1917, p. 767.)

See Secs. 35, 35b, *ante*.

### Unpaid Tolls Part of Assessment.

Sec. 39f. Whenever any tolls and charges for the use of water and other public uses provided for by this act have been fixed by the board of directors, it shall be lawful to make the same payable in advance. In case any tolls or charges remain unpaid at the time specified for the delivery of the assessment book to the collector of the district, the amount due for such tolls and charges, may be added to and become a part of the annual assessment levied upon the land upon which the water for which such tolls and charges are unpaid was used and upon the lands subject to tolls and charges for other public uses, and shall constitute a lien on said land, and if such assessment is divided and made payable in two installments such unpaid tolls and charges may be added to and become a part of the first installment of said assessment. (Stats. 1925, p. 501.)

*Willard* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 726, 258 Pac. 959;
*San Diego* vs. *La Mesa, L. A. & S. V. Irr. Dist.*, 63 Cal. App. Dec. 777, 292 Pac. 1082.

### Assessment a Lien; When Attaches.

Sec. 40. The assessment upon land is a lien against the property assessed from and after the first Monday in March for any year. (Stats. 1917, p. 768.)

*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171;
*Bolton* vs. *Terra Bella Irr. Dist.*, 106 Cal. App. 313, 289 Pac. 678.

How divested, see Secs. 46, 47, 47a, *post*.

### Erroneous Assessments May Be Refunded.

Sec. 40a. In case the board of directors of any irrigation district shall find that any property has been assessed in any year more than once or has been assessed by reason of a clerical error for more than its full cash value, or computed on an excessive acreage, or that any property assessed was not in the district when so assessed, the board may authorize the collector to cancel or modify such assessment, as may be proper, and in case of any such change in any assessment, the secretary shall credit the collector with the amount of said assessment if it is canceled, or the amount by what it is reduced if it is modified.

Any assessments, penalties or costs thereon, or portions thereof, provided for by this act, heretofore or hereafter paid more than once, or heretofore or hereafter erroneously, or illegally collected, may by order of the board of directors be refunded by the district treasurer.

No order for the refund of assessments, penalties or costs under this section shall be made except upon a verified claim therefor verified by the person who has paid said assessments, penalties or costs, or by his guardian, or in case of his death, by his executor or administrator, which said claim must be filed within one year after the making of the payment sought to be refunded. (Stats. 1923, p. 632.)

Recovery of assessments paid.
See: *Grimes* vs. *Co. of Merced*, 96 Cal. App. 76, 273 Pac. 839;
*Perrin* vs. *Honeycutt,* 144 Cal. 87, 77 Pac. 776;
Sec. 3804 Pol. Code.

### Notice That Assessments Are Due; When Delinquent.

SEC. 41. On or before the first day of November, the secretary must deliver the assessment book to the collector of the district, who shall within twenty days start the publication of a notice that said assessments are due and payable and will become delinquent at six o'clock p.m. on the last Monday of December next thereafter, except as provided in section 41c hereof, and that unless paid prior thereto ten per cent of the amount thereof will be added as a penalty for delinquency. Said notice shall also state the time and place at which payment of assessments may be made. Said notice shall be published at least two times; to wit, once a week for two successive weeks, in a newspaper published in the county in which the office of the district is located, and if the district includes land in more than one county, then said notice shall be published as aforesaid in a newspaper in each county in which any portion of the district is situated. Failure to publish notice as aforesaid in any county other than that in which the office of the district is located shall not affect any assessment on land in a county in which notice was published as herein required. The collector must attend at the time and place specified in the notice to receive assessments, which must be paid in gold and silver coin; he must mark the date of payment of any assessment in the assessment book, opposite the name of the person paying and give a receipt to such person, specifying the amount of the assessment and the amount paid, with the description of the property assessed. On the last Monday in December at six o'clock p.m. of each year, except as provided in section 41c hereof, all unpaid assessments are delinquent and thereafter the collector must collect thereon, for the use of the district, an addition of ten per cent of the amount thereof as a penalty for delinquency. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 233.)

*San Diego* vs. *Linda Vista Dist.*, 108 Cal. 189, 41 Pac. 291;
*Perry* vs. *Otay Irr. Dist.*, 127 Cal. 565, 60 Pac. 40;
*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper,* 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728;
*Corson* vs. *Crocker,* 31 Cal. App. 626, 161 Pac. 287;
*Holland* vs. *Avondale Dist.* (Idaho), 166 Pac. 259;
*Farwell* vs. *San Jacinto, etc., Irr. Dist.*, 49 Cal. App. 167, 192 Pac. 1034.

See Sec. 41c, *infra.*

### Suit Against Delinquent to Collect Assessment.

SEC. 41a. The board of directors may at any time after any assessment has become delinquent direct the collector not to proceed with the sale of any property on the delinquent list, but to bring suit against the delinquent in the proper court in the name of the district to enforce such collection. The provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to pleadings, proofs, trials, and pleas are hereby made applicable to the proceedings herein provided for, and in such suit the district may recover the amount of said assessment together with the penalties and interests, provided in this act, and costs of suit. (Stats. 1915, p. 1368.)

Irrigation district assessment is an assessment for benefits.
*San Diego* vs. *Linda Vista Irr. Dist.*, 108 Cal. 189, 41 Pac. 291;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 189 Cal. 254, 208 Pac. 304.

As to enforcement of collection by suit against delinquent, *see*
*Atchison T. & S. F. Ry. Co.* vs. *Recl. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 91, 159 Pac. 430.

SEC. 41b. (No section of this number.)

### Assessments Payable in Installments.

SEC. 41c. The board of directors may, whenever they shall so determine, and must upon a petition in writing, signed by a majority of the assessment payers within the district, pass a resolution providing that thereafter all assessments, except special assessments provided for by section 34 of this act, shall be payable in two installments, and in said resolution shall specify when such payments may be made, and the percentage of said assessments to be paid in each installment. Such resolution must be passed before the first Monday in August, and can not be rescinded to take effect during any year after the first Monday of March in that year. Whenever the board of directors have so determined, thereafter the first installment of the assessment levied shall become delinquent at six o'clock p.m. on the last Monday of December, and the second installment thereof shall become delinquent at six o'clock p.m. on the last Monday of June next thereafter; provided, that where an assessment has been levied as provided in section 34 of this act the whole of such assessment shall become delinquent on the last Monday in December. When provision is made, as herein provided, for the payment of said assessments in two installments, the publication of the delinquent list provided for in this act, shall not be made before the first day of July, but must be made on or before the first day of August, and except as otherwise in this section provided all the provisions of this act relative to the assessment, payment and collection of assessments, notice of assessments, publication of delinquent list, and sale for delinquent assessment, and all other provisions relative to such assessments shall be applicable.[1] (Stats. 1927, p. 614.)

## SALE FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS

### Delinquent List; Publication; Time and Place of Sale.

SEC. 42. On or before the first day of February, except as provided in section 41c hereof, the collector must publish the delinquent list,[2] which shall contain the names of the persons and a description of the property delinquent, and the total amount of the assessments, penalties and costs due thereon. He must append to and publish with the delinquent list a notice, that unless the assessments delinquent, together with penalties and costs accrued thereon, as shown in the list, are paid, the real property upon which such assessments are a lien will be sold at public auction. The publication must be made three times; to wit, once a week for three successive weeks, in a newspaper published in the county in which the property delinquent is situated; provided, however, that only such lands as may be situated in such county shall be set forth in such publication; and provided, further, that if any property assessed to the same person or corporation shall lie in more than one county, then such publication may be made in any county in which any portion of such property may lie. The publication must designate the time and place of the sale. The time of sale must be not less than twenty-one nor more than twenty-eight days from the first publication, and the place must be at some point designated by the collector, within the district, or it may be at the office of the district if said office is not within the district; provided, however, that if there should occur any error in the publication of the notice of the sale of the delinquent property, or the delinquent list, which might invalidate a sale made thereunder, and such error is discovered prior to sale thereunder, the collector shall at once republish the notice of the sale of the property affected by such error, making such republication conform to the provisions of this law, and the time of sale designated in such republication must not be less than twenty-one nor more than twenty-eight days from the first republication; and the place of sale must be at some point designated by the collector within the district, or it may be at the office of the district if said office is not within the district, and stated in such republication. (Stats. 1929, p. 162.)

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[1] The 1927 act, adding section 41c, also contained the following:
SEC. 2. That certain act entitled "An act to permit boards of directors of irrigation districts organized or existing under and by virtue of an act of the Legislature, entitled 'An act to provide for the organization and government of irrigation districts, and to provide for the acquisition or construction thereby of works for the irrigation of the lands embraced within such districts, and also to provide for the distribution of water for irrigation purposes,' approved March 31, 1897; to provide for the payment in two installments of the assessments levied under and in accordance with the provisions of said act," approved March 19, 1909, is hereby repealed.

[2] If provision has been made for the payment of assessments in two installments, publication of the delinquent list shall not be made before the first day of July, but must be made on or before the first day of August. See section 41c, *infra.*

*Best* vs. *Wohlford,* 153 Cal. 17, 94 Pac. 98;
*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper*, 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728.

Publication of delinquent list.

*Hanhart* vs. *Co. of Madera,* 76 Cal. App. 290, 245 Pac. 444;
*Adams* vs. *Slee,* 92 Cal. App. 708, 268 Pac. 959.

Form of delinquent list.

*Davis* vs. *Pac. Imp. Co.,* 137 Cal. 245, 70 Pac. 15;
*Gottstein* vs. *Kelly,* 206 Cal. 742, 276 Pac. 347;
*Fox* vs. *Wright,* 152 Cal. 59, 91 Pac. 1005;
*Smith* vs. *Furlong,* 160 Cal. 522, 117 Pac. 527;
*Kipp* vs. *Danielson,* 63 Cal. App. Dec. 460, 292 Pac. 155;
*Sawyer* vs. *Berkeley Sec. Co.,* 99 Cal. App. 545, 279 Pac. 217.

### Day of Sale; Postponement; Penalties and Costs.

Sec. 43. The collector must collect, in addition to the assessments due on the delinquent list, and ten per cent penalty added, for delinquency, costs in the sum of fifty cents on each lot, piece or tract of land separately assessed. On the day fixed for the sale, or some subsequent day to which he may have postponed it, of which he must give notice, the collector, between the hours of ten o'clock a.m. and three o'clock p.m., must commence the sale of the property advertised, commencing at the head of the list and continuing alphabetically, or in the numerical order of the lots or blocks, until completed. He may postpone the day of commencing the sales, or the sale, from day to day, but the sale must be completed within three weeks from the day first fixed; provided, that if any sale or sales shall be stayed by legal proceedings, the time of the continuance of such proceedings is not part of the time limited for making such sale or sales. (Stats. 1929, p. 1170.)

*Woodruff* vs. *Perry*, 103 Cal. 611, 37 Pac. 526;
*Baxter* vs. *Vineland Irr. Dist.*, 136 Cal. 185, 68 Pac. 601;
*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper*, 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728;
*Corson* vs. *Crocker*, 31 Cal. App. 626, 161 Pac. 287;
*Young* vs. *Patterson*, 9 Cal. App. 469, 99 Pac. 552;
*Bell* vs. *Briganee*, 74 Cal. App. 322, 240 Pac. 50;
*Imperial L. Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113.

### Rights of Owner; Resale; District May Purchase.

Sec. 44. The owner or person in possession of any property offered for sale for assessments due thereon may designate, in writing, to the collector, prior to the sale, what portion of the property he wishes sold, if less than the whole; but if the owner or possessor does not, then the collector may designate it and the person who will take the least quantity of the property assessed, or in case an undivided interest is assessed, then the smallest portion of the interest, and pay the assessments, penalties and costs due, including two dollars for the duplicate certificate of sale, is the purchaser. If the purchaser does not pay the assessments, penalties and costs before ten o'clock a.m. the following day, the property on the next sale day must be resold for the assessments, penalties and costs. But in case there is no purchaser in good faith for the same on the first day that the property is offered for sale, then, when the property is offered thereafter for sale, and there is no purchaser in good faith for the same, the whole amount of the property assessed shall be struck off to the irrigation district within which such lands are situated, as the purchaser, and the duplicate certificate delivered to the treasurer of the district, and filed by him in his office. No charge shall be made for the duplicate certificate where the district is the purchaser, and, in such case, the collector shall make an entry, "sold to the district" and he shall be credited with the amount thereof in his settlement. An irrigation district as a purchaser at such sale, shall be entitled to the same rights as a private purchaser, and the district as such purchaser may sell, assign and transfer such certificate of sale for a consideration of not less than the amount of the assessments, penalties and costs. (Stats. 1929, p. 1171.)

Designation of least quantity, etc.
*Best* vs. *Wohlford*, 153 Cal. 17, 94 Pac. 98;
*Bolton* vs. *Terra Bella Irr. Dist.*, 106 Cal. App. 313, 289 Pac. 678.

Priority of tax liens.
*Nevada Nat'l Bank* vs. *Poso Dist.*, 140 Cal. 344, 73 Pac. 1056;
*Henrylyn Irr. Dist.* vs. *Patterson* (Colo.), 176 Pac. 493;
(Political Code, section 3787; Sec. 48, *infra*.)

Sale to district must be made on subsequent day.
*Glacier Co.* vs. *Schlinski*, (Mont.), 300 Pac. 270.

### Certificate of Sale; Form.

Sec. 45. After receiving the amount for which any property was sold, the collector must make out in duplicate a certificate, giving a description of the property sold and the amount paid therefor, and stating that it was sold for a delinquent assessment and when the purchaser will be entitled to a deed. The certificate must be signed by the collector, and one copy delivered to the purchaser, and the other filed in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the property is situated. On receiving the certificate of sale the county recorder must file it and make an entry in a book similar to that required of the collector. The certificate of sale may be in substantially the following form, with the blanks properly filled in accordance with the facts in each case:

Certificate of Sale.

------------------- Irrigation District No.------

I, the undersigned collector of --------------------------irrigation district, hereby certify that on the ------ day of -----------, 19---, I did, after notice given as provided by law, sell to ----------- hereinafter called the purchaser, for the sum of ------------- dollars ($--------) that certain real property within said district and in the county of ----------------------, State of California, bounded or described as follows, to wit:

(Insert description)

Said land was sold for a delinquent assessment levied thereon by the board of directors of said district, and the amount aforesaid was the sum due and unpaid under said assessment and the penalties and costs accruing thereon. The purchaser will be entitled to a deed to said property at any time after three years from the date of said sale unless in the meantime said property is redeemed as provided by law.

Witness my hand and the seal of said district this ------------- day of ------------------, 19---.

[DISTRICT SEAL] ---------------------------

Collector of ------------- irrigation district.

(Amended Stats. 1931, p. 439.)

*Wilson* vs. *Carter*, 117 Cal. 53, 48 Pac. 983;
*Best* vs. *Wohlford*, 153 Cal. 17, 94 Pac. 98;
*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper*, 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728;
*Corson* vs. *Crocker*, 31 Cal. App. 626, 161 Pac. 287;
*McDonough* vs. *Cooper*, 179 Cal. 384, 177 Pac. 153;
*Adams* vs. *Slee*, 92 Cal. App. 708, 268 Pac. 959.
(See section 48, *infra*.)

### Record Book of Property Sold for Assessments.

SEC. 46. The collector, before delivering any certificate, must in a book enter a description of the property sold, corresponding with the description in the certificate, the date of the sale, purchaser's name, and amount paid, regularly number the description on the margin of the book, and put a corresponding number on each certificate. Such book must be open to public inspection, without fee, during office hours, when not in actual use. On filing the certificate with such county recorder the lien of the assessments vests with the purchaser, and is only divested by the payment to him or to the collector for his use, of the purchase money, and a penalty of one and one-half per cent per month from the date of sale until redemption. (Stats. 1929, p. 1172.)

*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper*, 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728.

## REDEMPTION OF PROPERTY SOLD FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS

### Redemption; How Made; If No Redemption Deed to Be Executed to Purchaser; Form of Deed.

SEC. 47. A redemption of the property sold may be made within three years from the date of purchase, or at any time thereafter before a deed has been made and delivered, by payment in lawful money of the United States to the purchaser or his assignee, or to the collector, of the amount required as provided in section 46 of this act. When payment is made to the collector he must, except when the district holds the certificate of sale, hold the money for and pay it on demand to the purchaser or his assignee. If the district holds the certificate of sale, the collector must pay the redemption money to the treasurer. In each report the collector makes to the board of directors, he must name the persons entitled to redemption money, and the amount due each. On the presentation of the receipt of the person named in the certificate, or his assignee, or of the collector for his use, for the total amount of the redemption money, the recorder must mark the word "redeemed," the date, and by whom redeemed, on the certificate and on the margin of the book where the entry of the certificate is made. If the property is not redeemed within the time herein provided, the collector or his successor in office, upon demand, must make to the purchaser, or his assignee, a deed to the property, which deed shall refer to the date of the sale and state that no person redeemed the property during the time allowed by law for its redemption. The collector shall receive from the purchaser for the use of the district two dollars for making such deed, except when the deed is made to the district. The deed made by the collector may be in substantially the following form, the blanks being filled to show the facts in each case:

Collector's Deed.

____________________ Irrigation District.

Whereas, on the ______ day of ______________ 19___, the collector of ________________ irrigation district did sell to__________________ for a delinquent assessment theretofore levied by the board of directors of said district that certain real property within said district and in the county of ____________, State of California, bounded or described as follows, to wit:

(Insert description)

And whereas, no person has redeemed said land from said sale and the time for redemption has now elapsed, and said purchaser has demanded a deed to said land; now, therefore,

I, the undersigned collector of said district, do hereby grant to the said _____________________ all of the real property aforesaid.

Witness my hand and the seal of said district this ______ day of ____________, 19___.

[DISTRICT SEAL] ____________________________

Collector of __________ irrigation district.

If a deed shall be demanded pursuant to any sale whereof the certificate shall have been assigned, the foregoing form of deed shall be amended by striking out the words "and said purchaser has demanded a deed to said land" and inserting in lieu thereof substantially the following: "and the certificate of said sale has been assigned to ________________, who has demanded a deed to said land." In case partial redemption has been made the above form shall be modified so as to conform to the facts. Where property has been sold to the district and a deed for it has been given to the district as the purchaser, such district shall have the same rights thereto, and to the rents, issues and profits thereof, as a private purchaser. The title so acquired by the district may be conveyed by deed, executed and acknowledged by the president and secretary of the board of directors; provided, that authority to so convey must be conferred by resolution of the board entered on its minutes fixing the price at which such sale may be made. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 439.)

*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper*, 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728;
*Schamblin* vs. *Means*, 6 Cal. App. 265, 91 Pac. 1020;
*Adams* vs. *Slee*, 92 Cal. App. 708, 268 Pac. 959;
*Teralta* vs. *Shaffer*, 116 Cal. 518, 48 Pac. 613;
*Johnson* vs. *Taylor*, 150 Cal. 204, 88 Pac. 903.

### Partial Redemption; Decision of Board of Directors Is Final.

SEC. 47a. In all cases where a lot, piece, or parcel of land contained in any assessment has been sold or may hereafter be sold to the district for delinquent assessments and the time for redemption has not expired, a redemption of a portion of said lot, piece or parcel of land may be made, separately from the whole assessment, of any such lot, piece or parcel of land as follows:

If such lot, piece or parcel of land has a separate valuation shown on the assessment book, the collector shall estimate the amount due according to the valuation shown on the assessment book, and the redemption shall be made in the manner provided for in sections 46 and 47 of this act. If such lot, piece or parcel of land or such fractional part of such lot, piece or parcel of land does not have a separate valuation shown on the assessment book, the collector shall submit the description of the lot, piece or parcel of land, or the fractional part thereof, upon which redemption is requested to the assessor, who must place a valuation thereon. The collector shall estimate the amount due according to the valuation so placed upon the parcel upon which redemption is requested, and shall then refer said proposed redemption to the board of directors who may confirm, modify or set aside the act of the assessor, or the board may refuse to authorize such redemption, and the decision of the board shall be final and conclusive, and the collector shall conform therewith and the redemption, if authorized by said board of directors, shall be made in the manner provided for in sections 46 and 47 of this act. (Stats 1931, p. 378.)

### Delinquent Assessments Not Bar to Dissolution; District in Process of Dissolution; Deed for Land Sold Executed by County Treasurer.

SEC. 47½. The period herein prescribed for the redemption of properties sold for delinquent assessments shall not operate as a bar to the dissolution of any irrigation district. If any land has been sold for delinquent assessments of a district in process of dissolution, or in a district which has been dissolved, and the time allowed for redemption has not expired, the owner of such property or anyone in interest may redeem the same by paying the amount due thereon, computed as provided in section 46 of this act, to the county treasurer, who must issue his receipt therefor, and upon the presentation of such receipt the county recorder must cancel the certificate of sale in the manner required in the preceding section. In the event any land has been sold for nonpayment of assessments as herein provided, and no redemption has been made within the time allowed in this act therefor, in any district which may have been dissolved before the expiration of said redemption period, then a deed for the property sold and described in the certificate of sale must be made to the purchaser upon demand by the county treasurer of the county in which said irrigation district is or was situated. Such deed shall contain all the recitals of the certificate of sale, and in addition thereto, a recital that the district has been dissolved, and a deed executed in pursuance of the authority given in this section. A deed so executed shall have the same force and effect as if executed by the collector of an irrigation district. (Stats. 1927, p. 191.)

### Collector's Deed; Effect As Evidence; Title Conveyed.

SEC. 48. A deed issued by the collector of an irrigation district as provided in section 47 hereof, when duly acknowledged or proved, is prima facie evidence that: (a) The property was assessed as required by law; (b) the property was equalized as required by law; (c) the assessments were levied in accordance with law; (d) the assessments were not paid; (e) at a proper time and place the property was sold as prescribed by law, and by the proper officer; (f) the property was not redeemed; (g) the person who executed the deed was the proper officer. Such deed duly acknowledged or proved is (except as against actual fraud) conclusive evidence of the regularity of all the proceedings from the assessment by the assessor, inclusive, up to the execution of the deed. The deed conveys to the grantee the absolute title to the lands described therein free of all encumbrances, except when the land is owned by the United States, or this state, in which case it is prima facie evidence of the right of possession. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 439.)

*Cooper* vs. *Miller*, 113 Cal. 238, 45 Pac. 325;
*Escondido H. S. Dist.* vs. *Escondido Seminary*, 130 Cal. 128, 62 Pac. 401;
*Best* vs. *Wohlford*, 144 Cal. 733, 78 Pac. 293;
*Best* vs. *Wohlford*, 153 Cal. 17, 94 Pac. 98;
*Haese* vs. *Heitzig*, 159 Cal. 569, 114 Pac. 816;
*McDonough* vs. *Cooper*, 179 Cal. 384, 177 Pac. 153;
*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper*, 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728;
*Corson* vs. *Crocker*, 31 Cal. App. 626, 161 Pac. 287;
*Stewart* vs. *Atkinson*, 96 Cal. App. 50, 273 Pac. 606;
*Commercial Nat. Bank* vs. *Schlitz*, 6 Cal. App. 174, 91 Pac. 750.

### Board May Compromise Claims.

SEC. 48a. The board of directors may, on such terms as it deems for the best interests of the district, take a deed or release from any claimant to an interest in any property owned or claimed by the district. (Stats. 1931, p. 325.)

### Assessment Book; Effect As Evidence.

SEC. 49. The assessment book or delinquent list, or a copy thereof, certified by the collector, showing unpaid assessments against any person, or property, is prima facie evidence of the assessment, the property assessed, the delinquency, the amount of assessments due and unpaid, and that all the forms of the law in relation to the assessment and levy of such assessments have been complied with.

*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper*, 31 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171.

**Misnomer Does Not Invalidate.**

SEC. 50. When land is sold for assessments correctly imposed, as the property of a particular person, no misnomer of the owner, or supposed owner, or other mistake relating to the ownership thereof affects the sale, or renders it void or voidable.

*Escondido H. S. Dist.* vs. *Escondido Seminary,* 130 Cal. 128, 62 Pac. 401;
*Commercial Nat'l Bank* vs. *Schlitz,* 6 Cal. App. 174, 91 Pac. 750;
*Bruschi* vs. *Cooper,* 30 Cal. App. 682, 159 Pac. 728.

**Settlements Between Secretary and Collector.**

SEC. 51. On the first Monday in each month, the collector must settle with the secretary of the board for all moneys collected for assessments, and pay the same over to the treasurer; and within six days thereafter he must deliver to and file in the office of the secretary a statement under oath, showing: (a) An account of all his transactions and receipts since his last settlement; (b) that all money collected by him as collector has been paid. The collector shall also file in the office of the secretary, on said first Monday in each month, the receipt of the treasurer for the money so paid.

## REDEMPTION OF BONDS AND PAYMENT OF INTEREST

SEC. 52. Upon presentation of any matured bond of the district, the treasurer shall pay the same from the bond principal fund, and upon presentation of any matured interest coupon of any bond of the district, the treasurer shall pay the same from the bond interest fund. If money is not available in the fund designated for the payment of any such matured bond or interest coupon, it shall draw interest at the rate of seven per cent per annum from the date of its presentation for payment until notice is given that funds are available for its payment, and it shall be stamped and provision made for its payment as in the case of a warrant for the payment of which funds are not available on its presentation.

Whenever there is in any fund of the district money in excess of that required for the purposes of such fund up to the time when any part of the next annual assessment levied in the district will become delinquent, the board of directors of the district may purchase with such surplus money, or any part thereof, any of its bonds not then due, and may cancel the bonds so purchased or hold the same as a part of its assets until such time as the board may determine that it is for the best interests of the district that such bonds or any of them be sold, or shall cancel the same at their date of maturity. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 172.)

Statute of limitations.

*Sechrist* vs. *Rialto Irr. Dist.,* 129 Cal. 640, 62 Pac. 261;
*Curtis* vs. *Rialto Irr. Dist.,* 44 Cal. App. 738, 187 Pac. 117;
*Farwell* vs. *San Jacinto and P. V. Irr. Dist.,* 49 Cal. App. 167, 192 Pac. 1034;
*Hewel* vs. *Hogin,* 3 Cal. App. 248, 84 Pac. 1082.

## CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS

**Call for Bids; Notice; Publication; Award of Contract; Bond.**

SEC. 53. Before the construction of any work to be paid for with the proceeds of the sale of bonds, or a special assessment levied in accordance with section 34 or section 59 of this act, the board of directors shall give notice, by publication thereof three times, to wit, once a week for three successive weeks, in a newspaper published in the county in which the office of the district is located, or, if no newspaper is published therein, then in such publication as the board may deem advisable, calling for bids for the construction of such work, or of any portion thereof; if less than the whole work is advertised, then the portion so advertised must be particularly described in such notice. Said notice shall set forth that plans and specifications can be seen at the office of the board, and that the board will receive sealed proposals therefor and that the contract will be let to the lowest responsible bidder, or bidders, but that any or all bids may be rejected, stating the time and place for opening said proposals, which, at the time and place appointed, shall be opened in public; and as convenient thereafter the board shall let said work, either in portions or as a whole, to the lowest responsible bidder or bidders; but the board may reject any bid or bids or may reject all bids and readvertise for proposals or may proceed to construct the work under its own superintendence; provided, that in case of emergency or urgent necessity for any such work, the board of directors, by unanimous vote of those present at any regular or special meeting, may award contracts therefor without advertising for bids, but the cost of such work shall not exceed five hundred dollars and such additional amount as shall be equal to five cents for each acre of land in the district. Contracts for the purchase of material to be furnished or used by the district in any such work shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder or bidders after such notice as the board of directors may deem proper. Any person or persons to whom a contract may be awarded shall enter into a bond, with good and sufficient sureties, to be approved by the board, payable to said district for its use, for at least twenty-five per cent of the amount of the estimated contract price, conditioned for the faithful performance of said contract. The work shall be done under the direction and to the satisfaction of the engineer of the district and be subject to approval by the board. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 1897.)

*Healey* vs. *Anglo Bank, Ltd.*, 5 Cal. App. 278, 90 Pac. 54;
*Twohy Bros. Co.* vs. *Ochoco Irr. Dist.* (Ore.), 210 Pac. 873;
See section 9 of Stats. 1917, p. 243.

### During Construction; Powers and Duties of State Engineer; Investigations and Reports.

SEC. 53a. During the construction of any irrigation works to be paid for out of the proceeds of any bond issue which has been certified by the state irrigation district bond commission as provided in the act creating said commission, the state engineer shall have access to all plans, specifications, and records of such construction, and shall from time to time make such investigations and such reports to the board of directors of the district as he shall deem to be in the interest of the public or of the district. (Stats. 1917, p. 768.)

*Imperial L. Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113.

### Payment of Claims; Safekeeping of Funds by County Treasurer; Reports by County and District Treasurer.

SEC. 54. No claim shall be paid by the treasurer until allowed by the board, and only upon a warrant signed by the president, and countersigned by the secretary; provided, that the board may draw from time to time, from the construction fund, and deposit in the county treasury of the county where the office of the board is situated any sum in excess of the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars. The county treasurer of said county is hereby authorized and required to receive and receipt for the same and place the same to the credit of said district, and he shall be responsible upon his official bond for the safekeeping and disbursement of the same, as in this act provided. He shall pay out the same, or any portion thereof, to the treasurer of the district only, and only upon the order of the board, signed by the president, and attested by the secretary. The said county treasurer shall report, in writing, on the second Monday in each month, the amount of money in the county treasury, the amount of receipts for the month preceding, and the amount or amounts paid out; said report shall be verified and filed with the secretary of the board. The district treasurer shall also report to the board, in writing, on the first Monday in each month, the amount of money in the district treasury, the amount of receipts for the month preceding, and the amount and items of expenditures, and said report shall be verified and filed with the secretary of the board.

Irrigation district not subject to attachment or execution.
*Irilarry* vs. *San Diego,* 186 Cal. 535, 199 Pac. 1041.

Negotiability and validity of warrants.
*Danby* vs. *Starlight Irr. Dist.* (Ore.), 157 Pac. 1066;
*Interstate Trust Co.* vs. *Steele* (Colo.), 173 Pac. 873–5.

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*Perry* vs. *Otay Irr. Dist.,* 127 Cal. 565, 60 Pac. 40;
*Carmichael* vs. *Riley,* 56 Cal. App. 409, 205 Pac. 478;
*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.,* 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 223;
*Wilbur* vs. *Tia Juana Irr. Dist.,* 94 Cal. App. 511;
*State* vs. *Dilworth,* (Mont.), 258 Pac. 246.

### During Construction; Financial and Progress Reports; Examination and Report by State Engineer.

SEC. 54½. During the construction of any work to be paid for out of the proceeds of the sale of any bonds of any irrigation district within this state, the secretary of the board of directors shall, within one week after each regular meeting of said board, forward to the state engineer copies of all reports made to said board as to the progress of said work and a statement of the amounts paid for the doing of any part of said work. Immediately after the publication of the statement of the financial condition of any irrigation district within this state, required by section 14 of this act to be made annually, the board of directors of said district shall cause a copy of said statement and a report stating the general condition of any works constructed or acquired by said district and whether or not the plan of irrigation adopted by the district is being successfully carried out and any other matters which the board may deem proper, to be forwarded to the state engineer, who shall examine said statement and report and make to said board such recommendations and comments as he may deem proper. The state engineer may at any time make or cause to be made an examination of the affairs of any irrigation district within this state or call upon the authorities of such district for such information as he may desire and make such report thereon as he may deem advisable. (Stats. 1913, p. 1000.)

### Tolls for Use of Water.

SEC. 55. For any of the purposes of this act, or of any act supplementary hereto, the board of directors of any irrigation district may, in lieu (either in whole or in part) of levying assessments as herein provided, fix and collect rates of tolls or charges for the use of water which may include a stand-by or carrying charge notwithstanding the water is not actually used, or any other public use of which the district is in charge, under such reasonable rules and regulations as the board may prescribe, which may provide, in the case of water for irrigation, that tolls or charges will be payable only in case of the delivery of water in excess of a specified quantity per unit of land. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 246.)

District cannot fix tolls for lands served outside of district.

*Henderson* vs. *Orville-Wyandotte Irr. Dist.*, 207 Cal. 215, 277 Pac. 487;
See also case same title 2 P. (2d) 803;
*San Diego* vs. *La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.*, 63 Cal. App. Dec. 777, 292 Pac. 1082.

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*Hughson* vs. *Crane*, 115 Cal. 404, 47 Pac. 120;
*Mitchell* vs. *Patterson*, 120 Cal. 286, 52 Pac. 589;
*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491;
*Wores* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 193 Cal. 609, 227 Pac. 181;
*Danley* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist., et al.*, 66 Cal. App. 97, 226 Pac. 847;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100;
*Willard* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 726, 258 Pac. 959.

### Directors May Condemn Right of Way Across Property Subject to Public Use.

SEC. 56. The board of directors shall have power to construct the said works across any stream of water, watercourse, street, avenue, highway, road, railway, canal, ditch, flume or other property subject to or devoted to public use, in such manner as to afford security to life and property; but said board shall restore the same, when so crossed or intersected, to its former state as near as may be, or in a sufficient manner as not to have impaired unnecessarily its usefulness. If the owner or owners of any land, easement or franchise so to be crossed can not agree with the district as to the amount to be paid therefor or the location of such crossing or any other matters in connection therewith, the same shall be determined and ascertained in all respects as is in this act provided in respect to the taking of land. In case any street, road, highway, railroad, canal, or other property subject or devoted to public use shall become subject to flooding or other interference by reason of the construction or proposed construction of any works of the district, the board of directors of the district may acquire by agreement or condemnation the right so to flood or otherwise interfere with such property, whether it be publicly or privately owned, and if such right be acquired by condemnation, the judgment may, if the court shall find that public necessity or convenience so requires, direct the district to relocate such street, road, highway, railroad, canal or other property in accordance with plans prescribed by the court; and if by such judgment or by agreement the district shall be required to relocate any such street, road, highway, railroad, canal or other property subject or devoted to public use, the board shall have power to acquire in the name of the district, by agreement or condemnation, all rights of way and other property necessary or proper for compliance with such agreement or such judgment of condemnation and thereafter to make such conveyances of such relocated street, road, highway, railroad, canal, or other property as may be proper to comply with such agreement or judgment. The right of way is hereby given, dedicated and set apart to locate, construct and maintain any of the works of the district over and through any of the lands which are now or may become the property of this state; and also there is given, dedicated and set apart, for the uses and purposes aforesaid, all waters and water rights belonging to this state within the district. (Stats. 1927, p. 194.)

*McPherson* vs. *Alta Irr. Dist.*, 14 Cal. App. 353, 112 Pac. 193;
*MacCammelly* vs. *Pioneer Irr. Dist.* (Idaho), 105 Pac. 1076;
*City of Nampa* vs. *Nampa, etc., Dist.* (Idaho), 131 Pac. 8.

## DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

### Compensation of Directors and Officers; Petition for Schedule.

SEC. 57. The directors, when sitting as a board or acting under the orders of the board, shall receive not to exceed eight dollars per day and ten cents per mile for each mile actually traveled from their respective places of residence to the office of the board, and returning therefrom, and actual and necessary expenses paid while engaged in official business under the orders of the board; provided, that in irrigation districts containing five hundred thousand acres or more the directors, in lieu of said per diem, shall each receive a salary of two hundred dollars per month. The board shall fix the compensation to be paid to all officers named in this act, to be paid out of the treasury of the district; provided, that the board shall, upon the petition of at least fifty freeholders within the district therefor, submit to the electors at any general election a schedule of salaries and fees to be paid hereunder. Such petition must be presented to the board not less than twenty days, nor more than forty days prior to a general election and the result of such election shall be determined and declared in all respects as other elections are determined and declared under this act. (Stats. 1927, p. 251.)

*Rose* vs. *Superior Court*, 80 Cal. App. 739, 252 Pac. 765.

### Directors and Officers Not to Be Interested in Contracts, Etc., Penalty for Violation.

SEC. 58. No director or any other officer named in this act shall in any manner be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract awarded or to be awarded by the board, or in the profits to be derived therefrom; and for any violation of this provision, such officer shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and such conviction shall work a forfeiture of his office, and he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

## SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

### Election on Special Assessment; When Dispensed With.

SEC. 59. The board of directors may at any time call a special election and submit to the qualified electors of the district the question whether a special assessment shall be levied for the purpose of raising money to be applied to any of the purposes of this act or of any act supplementary hereto. Such election must be called upon the notice prescribed, and the same shall be held and the result thereof determined and declared in all respects in conformity with the provisions of section 30d of this act. The notice must specify the amount of money proposed to be raised, and the purpose or purposes for which it is intended to be used, and it may state that said assessment shall be levied in two or three annual installments and specify the amount of the installment to be levied in each year. At the special election the ballots shall contain the words ''Assessment—Yes'' or ''Assessment—No,'' or words equivalent thereto. If a majority of the votes cast are ''Assessment—Yes,'' the board of directors shall, at the time of the annual levy hereunder, levy a sum sufficient to raise the amount voted, or, if the notice of election shall have provided for levying said assessment in annual installments, the board of directors shall, at the time of the annual levy in each of the years specified in said notice, levy such assessment as shall raise the amount of the installment provided in said notice to be raised in said year; provided, however, that in case of an unexpected emergency by which the flow of water in the canal or other supply is interrupted, the amount of the indebtedness, incurred in the repair of the works of said district, caused by such interruption, not to exceed in any one year forty thousand dollars, may also, in addition to the assessments hereinbefore provided for, be levied by the adoption of a resolution by at least four-fifths of the members of the board of directors, at the time of the levying of the annual assessment provided for in this act, without the submission of the question of such levy to a vote, as in this section hereinbefore provided. (Stats. 1919, p. 668.)

*Tregea* vs. *Owens*, 94 Cal. 317, 29 Pac. 643;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 26 Cal. App. 529, 147 Pac. 593;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 166 Cal. 491, 137 Pac. 234;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 668, 161 Pac. 116;
*McDonough* vs. *Cooper*, 179 Cal. 384, 177 Pac. 153;
*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.*, 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 223;
*Danley* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 66 Cal. App. 97, 226 Pac. 847;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100.

### Rate of Assessments; Ascertainment.

SEC. 60. The rate of assessments levied under the provisions of this act shall be ascertained by deducting fifteen per cent for anticipated delinquencies from the aggregate assessed value of the property in the district as it appears on the assessment roll for the current year, and then dividing the sum to be raised by the remainder of such aggregate assessed value. Special assessments shall be computed and entered by the secretary and collected as a part of the regular assessment levied hereunder, and, when collected, shall be paid into the district treasury for the purpose or purposes specified in the notices calling the respective elections at which they were voted. (Stats. 1919, p. 669.)

*McDonough* vs. *Cooper*, 179 Cal. 384, 177 Pac. 153;
*Stevens* vs. *Melville* (Utah), 175 Pac. 602;
*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.*, 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 223.

## INCURRING INDEBTEDNESS

### Power to Incur Indebtedness Restricted.

SEC. 61. The board of directors or other officers of the district shall have no power to incur any debt or liability whatever, either by issuing bonds or otherwise, in excess of the express provisions of this act; and any debt or liability incurred in excess of such express provisions shall be and remain absolutely void, except that for the purposes of organization, or for any of the purposes of this act, the board of directors may, before the levying of the first assessment, incur indebtedness in such sum or sums as shall amount to two thousand dollars, or, if the district shall contain more than four thousand acres, to one-half as many dollars as there are acres of land in the district, and may cause warrants of the district to be issued therefor, bearing interest at not more than seven per centum per annum, said rate to be fixed by the board of directors. Each such warrant shall be made payable on a date not later than the first day of July next after the first assessment in the district shall be levied, and if not paid when presented on the due date or thereafter shall be registered and the amount due thereon shall draw interest as provided in section 61a of this act. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as limiting the right of the board to enter into any contract or lease for any lands, waters, water rights or other property as elsewhere in this act authorized and by such lease or contract to bind the district for the payment of the consideration specified in such lease or contract, but if the smallest payment to be made under such lease or contract in any year exceeds an amount equal to ten cents an acre for all the land in the district, such lease or contract shall not be valid unless approved by the commission authorized by law to approve the bonds of irrigation districts as legal investments for savings banks, or unless an assessment sufficient to meet all the payments to become due under such lease or contract shall have been or shall be authorized for that purpose in accordance with section 59 of this act. (Stats. 1921, p. 1110.)

*Mitchell* vs. *Patterson*, 120 Cal. 286, 52 Pac. 589;
*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491;
*Ser-Vis* vs. *Victor Valley Irr. Dist.*, 190 Cal. 732, 214 Pac. 223;
*N. P. Ry Co.* vs. *John Day Irr. Dist.* (Ore.), 211 Pac. 781;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171;
*Danley* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 66 Cal. App. 97, 226 Pac. 847;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100;
*People* vs. *Honey Lake Valley Irr. Dist.*, 77 Cal. App. 367, 246 Pac. 819;
*Crawford* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 200 Cal. 318, 253 Pac. 726;
*Wilbur* vs. *Tia Juana Irr. Dist.*, 94 Cal. App. 511, 271 Pac. 514.

### Warrants Not Paid to Draw Interest.

SEC. 61a. Whenever any warrant of the district payable on demand is presented to the treasurer for payment when funds are not available for the payment thereof, it shall thereafter draw interest at a rate to be determined by resolution of the board of directors, not, however, to exceed seven per centum per annum, until public notice is given that such funds are available. Upon the presentation of any such warrants for payment, other than warrants issued under the provisions of section 61 hereof, when funds of the district are not available to pay the same, the treasurer of the district shall endorse thereon the words "funds not available for payment," with the date of presentation and shall specify the interest that such warrants shall thereafter bear and shall sign his name thereto. He shall keep a record showing the number and amount of each such warrant, the date of its issuance, the person in whose favor it was issued, and the date of its presentation for payment. Whenever there is sufficient money in the treasury to pay all such outstanding warrants or whenever the board of directors shall order that all such warrants presented for payment prior to a certain date, be made and there is sufficient money available for such payments, the treasurer shall give notice in some newspaper published in the district, or, if none is published therein, then in some newspaper published in the county in which the district or any portion thereof is situated, or, if none is published in such county, then the treasurer shall post such notice conspicuously in the place in which the board of directors of the district holds its regular meetings, stating that he is prepared to pay all warrants of the district for the payment of which funds were not available upon their original presentation, or all such warrants which were presented for payment prior to the date fixed by the board of directors, as the case may be, and no further description of the warrants entitled to payment shall be made in such notice. Upon the presentation of any warrant entitled to payment under the terms of such notice, the treasurer shall pay it, together with interest thereon at the rate specified by the board of directors, from the date of its original presentation for payment to the date of the first publication or posting of said notice, and all warrants for the payment of which funds are declared in said notice to be available shall cease to draw interest at the time of the first publication or posting of said notice. The treasurer shall enter in the record hereinbefore required to be kept, the dates of the payment of all such warrants, the names of the persons to whom payments are made and the amount paid to each person. (Stats. 1915, p. 1369.)

District may waive benefit of defense of statute of limitations.
*Hewel* vs. *Hogin*, 3 Cal. App. 248, 84 Pac. 1002.

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*Carter* vs. *Tilghman*, 119 Cal. 104, 51 Pac. 34;
*People* vs. *Honey Lake Valley Irr. Dist.*, 77 Cal. App. 367, 246 Pac. 819.

### Directors May Purchase or Condemn Irrigation Works; May Exchange Bonds for Property or Corporate Stock.

SEC. 61b. The board of directors of irrigation districts may acquire, by purchase or condemnation, the irrigation system, canals and works through which lands in such districts have been or may be supplied with water for irrigation, or other property necessary or proper for the purposes of the district, and may exchange bonds of such irrigation district for such system or canals or works or other property or for any portion thereof, or for any interest therein or for the capital stock of any corporation owning such system or other property or any portion thereof, upon such terms and conditions as the said board of directors may deem best. Such irrigation system, canals and works or other property necessary for the purposes of the district may be acquired and held subject to any liens, incumbrances or obligations thereon at the time of such acquiring. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 247.)

Exchange of bonds for property.
*Stimson* vs. *Alessandro Dist.*, 135 Cal. 389, 67 Pac. 1034;
*Hughson* vs. *Crane*, 115 Cal. 404, 47 Pac. 120;
*Stowell* vs. *Rialto Dist.*, 155 Cal. 215, 100 Pac. 248;
*Ham* vs. *Grapeland Dist.*, 172 Cal. 611, 158 Pac. 207;
*Hooker* vs. *East Riverside Dist.*, 38 Cal. App. 615, 177 Pac. 184;
*Rialto Dist.* vs. *Stowell*, 246 Fed. 294, 297;
*Baltes* vs. *Farmers Irr. Dist.* (Nebr.), 83 N. W. 83;
*Wyman* vs. *Searles* (Nebr.), 128 N. W. 801;
*O'Neil* vs. *Yellowstone Dist.* (Mont.), 121 Pac. 283.

Validity of contract for exchange.

*Kinkade* vs. *Witherop* (Wash.), 69 Pac. 399;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Peterson* (Ore.), 128 Pac. 837.

District assumes terms and conditions of purchase.

*Henderson* vs. *Oroville-Wyandotte Irr. Dist.*, 207 Cal. 295, 277 Pac. 487;
*Brooks* vs. *Oakdale Irr. Dist.*, 90 Cal. App. 270, 265 Pac. 965;
*McIntyre* vs. *Consolidated Water Co.*, 205 Cal. 231, 270 Pac. 444;
*San Diego* vs. *La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.*, 63 Cal. App. Dec. 777, 292 Pac. 1082;
*Morrison* vs. *Smith Bros.*, 80 Cal. Dec. 571, 293 Pac. 53.

The procedure before the Railroad Commission for the valuation of the property of a public utility in condemnation proceedings instituted by a district is prescribed in sections 47 and 70 of the Public Utilities Act (as amended by Stats. 1917, p. 261.)

### Bonds Exchanged for Property; Action to Determine Validity of Bonds.

Sec. 61c. Where the board of directors of an irrigation district have exchanged bonds or have agreed to exchange bonds for property rights in any irrigation system or works or other property or for any interest therein under the provisions of section 61b of this act, the court shall, in any proceeding brought under the provisions of section 68 of this act, by its decree determine the validity of all bonds issued or to be issued under any contract or contracts for the exchange of bonds for property interests and by its decree shall determine whether the bonds provided for in said contracts, when delivered to the person or corporation entitled thereto under the terms of any such contract, shall constitute valid obligations of said irrigation district as against all persons. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 247.)

## USE OF WATER

### Use of Water May Be Rotated; Water Commissioners; Personnel; Duties.

Sec. 62. In case the volume of water in any stream or river shall not be sufficient to supply the continual wants of the entire country through which it passes, and susceptible of irrigation therefrom, then it shall be the duty of the water commissioners, constituted as hereinafter provided, to apportion, in a just and equitable proportion, a certain amount of said water upon certain or alternate weekly days to different localities, as they may, in their judgment, think best for the interest of all parties concerned, and with due regard to the legal and equitable rights of all. Said water commissioners shall consist of the chairman of the board of directors of each of the districts affected.

### High Water; Duty of Board of Directors During.

Sec. 63. It shall be the duty of the board of directors to keep the water flowing through the ditches under their control to the full capacity of such ditches in times of high water.

Sec. 64. (This section related to navigation and vested rights; repealed, Stats. 1917, p. 915.)

### Compensation Must Be Paid for Infringement of Rights.

Sec. 65. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to authorize any person or persons to divert the waters of any river, creek, stream, canal, or ditch from its channel, to the detriment of any person or persons having any interest in such river, creek, stream, canal, or ditch, or the waters therein, unless previous compensation be ascertained and paid therefor, under the laws of this state authorizing the taking of private property for public uses.

See Const., Art. I, Sec. 14.
*Tormey* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.*, 53 Cal. App. 559, 200 Pac. 814.

Taking property previously dedicated to public use.

*Henderson* vs. *Oroville-Wyandotte Irr. Dist.*, 207 Cal. 215, 277 Pac. 487;
See, also, case same title 2 P. (2d) 803;
*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *Sierra, etc., Co.*, 69 Cal. App. 150, 230 Pac. 671;
*Mono Power Co.* vs. *Los Angeles*, 284 Fed. 784;
*East Bay Mun. Utility Dist.* vs. *Railroad Com.*, 194 Cal. 603, 229 Pac. 949.

## EXEMPTION OF DISTRICT PROPERTY FROM TAXATION

SEC. 66. The rights of way, ditches, flumes, pipe lines, dams, water rights, reservoirs, and other property of like character, belonging to any irrigation district, shall not be taxed for state and county or municipal purposes.

Constitution of California, Sec. 1, Art. XIII;
*Reclamation Dist.* vs. *Co. of Sacramento*, 134 Cal. 477, 66 Pac. 668;
*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *White*, 186 Cal. 183, 198 Pac. 1060;
*Crow Creek Irr. Dist.* vs. *Crittenden* (Mont.), 227 Pac. 63.

Liability for Assessments for Local Benefits.

*Recl. Dist.* vs. *East Bay, etc., Dist.*, 91 Cal. App. 149, 266 Pac. 969;
*City of Fresno* vs. *Fresno Irr. Dist.*, 72 Cal. App. 503, 237 Pac. 772;
*Southern Pacific Co.* vs. *Stibbens*, 103 Cal. App. 664, 285 Pac. 374;
*Inglewood* vs. *Los Angeles*, 207 Cal. 697, 280 Pac. 697.

## FUNDS

### Funds Established.

SEC. 67. The following funds are hereby created and established, to which the moneys properly belonging shall be apportioned, to wit: bond principal fund, bond interest fund, construction fund, general fund.[1] (Amended Stats. 1931.)

*Hughson* vs. *Crane*, 115 Cal. 404, 47 Pac. 120;
*Buschmann* vs. *Turlock Irr. Dist.*, 47 Cal. App. 321, 190 Pac. 491.

### Unexpended Money; Transferred to General Fund.

SEC. 67a. Whenever an object for which money has been specifically provided by assessment or by bond issue has been accomplished and any money provided therefor remains unexpended, the same shall in the discretion of the board of directors be transferred to the general fund and thereafter be available for any of the purposes of this act. (Stats. 1917, p. 769.)

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[1] The 1931 Amendment to Sec. 67, Stats. 1931, p. 172, also contained the following:

"SEC. 3. This act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure, deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety within the meaning of section 1 of article four of the constitution of the State of California, and as such it shall take effect immediately.

The following is a statement of the facts constituting such urgency:

Under the continuance of the conditions brought on by the agricultural depression many irrigation districts in this state have experienced an increased delinquency in the payment of assessments, which has brought about the necessity for an eventual refunding of their bonded obligations. Under the law as it at present exists a bond fund of an irrigation district may be exhausted by the presentation of maturing bonds, whereas the fund was created by the assessment for paying both principal and interest. This situation has brought about a condition in some of these districts where the land owner, unable to meet the full obligation of principal and interest and seeing himself in a complete default with danger of losing his home and lands, refuses to pay any of the assessment levied upon his land. This brings about a condition of breakdown in the functioning of the district, with the failure to supply water for domestic, irrigation and other purposes, detrimental in the extreme to the peace, health and safety of the communities involved. It is believed that through the passage of this bill before the semiannual period for payment of interest, on July 1st, districts will be enabled to continue their efforts toward refinancing without a breakdown of their functions as irrigation districts."

## ACTIONS TO DETERMINE VALIDITY OF BONDS AND LEVY OF ASSESSMENTS

### Board of Directors May Bring Action.

SEC. 68. The board of directors may, at any time after the issue of any bonds or the levy of any assessment herein provided for, bring an action in the superior court of the county wherein is located the office of such board, to determine the validity of any such bonds or such levy of assessments; such action shall be in the nature of a proceeding *in rem*, and jurisdiction of all parties interested may be had by publication of summons for at least once a week for three weeks in some paper of general circulation published in the county where the action is pending, such paper to be designated by the court having jurisdiction of the proceedings. Jurisdiction shall be complete within ten days after the full publication of such summons in the manner herein provided. Anyone interested may at any time before the expiration of said ten days appear and by proper proceedings contest the validity of such bonds or assessments. Such action shall be speedily tried and judgment rendered declaring such matter so contested either valid or invalid. Either party may have the right to appeal to the supreme court at any time within thirty days after the rendition of such judgment, which appeal must be heard and determined within three months from the time of taking such appeal.

*Crall* vs. *Poso Irr. Dist.*, 87 Cal. 140, 26 Pac. 797;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea*, 88 Cal. 334, 26 Pac. 237;
*In re Madera Irr. Dist.*, 92 Cal. 296, 28 Pac. 272, 675;
*Rialto Irr. Dist.* vs. *Brandon*, 103 Cal. 384, 37 Pac. 484;
*Cullen* vs. *Glendora Water Co.*, 113 Cal. 503, 39 Pac. 769, 45 Pac. 822 1047;
*In re Central Irr. Dist.*, 117 Cal. 382, 49 Pac. 534;
*People* vs. *Linda Vista Irr. Dist.*, 128 Cal. 477, 61 Pac. 86;
*People* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 132 Cal. 289, 64 Pac. 173;
*People* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 142 Cal. 601, 76 Pac. 381;
*Western Union Tel. Co.* vs. *Modesto Irr. Dist.*, 149 Cal. 662, 87 Pac. 190;
*Fogg* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 154 Cal. 209, 97 Pac. 316;
*Haese* vs. *Heitzig*, 159 Cal. 569, 114 Pac. 816;
*In re Bonds of So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 161 Cal. 345, 119 Pac. 198;
*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Sup'rs.* 162 Cal. 14, 120 Pac 780;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Dist.*, 173 Cal. 668, 161 Pac. 116;
*Black Canyon Irr. Dist.* vs. *Fallon* (Idaho), 122 Pac. 850;
*Petition of Board of Directors Unit District* (Ore.), 178 Pac. 186-8;
*Gray* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 304, 197 Pac. 389;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171.

### Assessment Payer May Bring Action.

SEC. 69. If no such proceedings shall have been brought by the board of directors, then, at any time within thirty days after the levy of any assessment or issue of any bonds under the provisions of this act, any district assessment payer may bring an action in the superior court of the county where the office of the board of directors is located, to determine the validity of any such assessment or such bonds. The board of directors shall be made parties defendant, and service of summons shall be made on the members of the board personally. Said board shall have the right to appear and contest such action. Such action shall be speedily tried, with the right of appeal to either party, within the time and manner herein provided for the bringing of actions by the board to determine such matters. Such appeal shall be heard and determined in the manner and within the time therein provided.

*Seehrist* vs. *Rialto Irr. Dist.*, 129 Cal. 640, 62 Pac. 261;
*Henry* vs. *Vineland Irr. Dist.*, 140 Cal. 376, 73 Pac. 1061;
*Western Union Tel. Co.* vs. *Modesto Irr. Dist.*, 149 Cal. 662, 87 Pac. 190;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 668, 161 Pac. 116;
*Gray* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 304, 197 Pac. 389;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 189 Cal. 254, 208 Pac. 304;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171;
*Willard* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 726, 258 Pac. 959.

### Consolidation of Actions.

SEC. 70. If more than one action shall be pending at the same time concerning similar contests in this act provided for, they shall be consolidated and tried together.

*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113.

### Court Must Disregard Errors, Etc., Rules of Pleading and Practice.

SEC. 71. The court hearing any of the contests herein provided for, in inquiring into the regularity, legality, or correctness of such proceedings, must disregard any error, irregularity, or omission which does not affect the substantial rights of the parties to said action or proceeding. The rules of pleading and practice provided by the Code of Civil Procedure, which are not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are applicable to all actions or proceedings herein provided for. The motion for a new trial of any such action or proceeding must be heard and determined within ten days from the filing of the notice of intention. The costs on any hearing or contest herein provided for, may be allowed and apportioned between the parties, or taxed to the losing party, in the discretion of the court.

*Lahman* vs. *Hatch*, 124 Cal. 1, 56 Pac. 821;
*Palmdale Irr. Dist.* vs. *Rathke*, 91 Cal. 538, 27 Pac. 783;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Abila*, 106 Cal. 365, 39 Pac. 793;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113;
*La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.* vs. *Halley*, 197 Cal. 50, 239 Pac. 719.

### Limitation of Time Within Which to Contest.

SEC. 72. No contest of any thing or matter herein provided shall be made other than within the time and manner herein specified, and in any such action all findings of facts or conclusions of said board of directors, or of the board of supervisors upon all matters, shall be conclusive, unless such action was instituted within six months after such finding or conclusion was made. (Stats. 1915, p. 1370.)

*Imperial Water Co.* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 162 Cal. 14, 120 Pac. 780;
*Imperial Land Co.* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 173 Cal. 660, 161 Pac. 113;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 189 Cal. 254, 208 Pac. 304;
*N. P. Ry. Co.* vs. *John Day Irr. Dist.* (Ore.), 211 Pac. 781;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171;
*Willard* vs. *Glenn-Colusa Irr. Dist.*, 201 Cal. 726, 258 Pac. 959.

## VIOLATION OF DUTY BY OFFICER

### Liable on Bond; Penalty for; Removal From Office.

SEC. 73. For any wilful violation of any express duty herein provided for, on the part of any officer herein named, he shall be liable upon his official bond, and be subject to removal from office, by proceedings brought in the superior court of the county wherein the office of the board of directors of the district is located, by any assessment payer of the district; but no officer of an irrigation district shall be personally liable for any damage resulting from the operations of the district or from the negligence or misconduct of any of its officers or employees unless such damage was proximately caused by the officer's own negligence or misconduct or by his wilful violation of official duty. (Stats. 1921, p. 850.)

Applicability of Sec. 165 of the Penal Code.
*People* vs. *Turnbull,* 93 Cal. 630, 29 Pac. 224.

Recall—see Sec. 28½, *infra.*

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*Kerr* vs. *Superior Court,* 130 Cal. 183;
*Whiteman* vs. *Anderson-Cottonwood Irr. Dist.,* 60 Cal. App. 234;
*Rose* vs. *Superior Court,* 80 Cal. App. 739, 252 Pac. 765;
*Nisson* vs. *Coult,* 96 Cal. App. 611, 274 Pac. 603;
*Nisson* vs. *Cordua Irr. Dist.,* 204 Cal. 542, 269 Pac. 171;
*Hilton* vs. *Oliver,* 204 Cal. 535, 269 Pac. 425.

## EXCLUSION OF LANDS

### Boundaries May Be Changed to Exclude Lands; Effect on Organization, Obligation, Etc.

SEC. 74. The boundaries of any irrigation district now organized or hereafter organized under the provision of this act, may be changed, and tracts of land which were included within the boundaries of such district at or after its organization under the provisions of said act, may be excluded therefrom, in the manner herein prescribed; but neither such change of the boundaries of the districts nor such exclusion of lands from the district shall impair or affect its organization, or its right in or to property, or any of its rights or privileges of whatever kind or nature; nor shall it affect, impair, or discharge any contract, obligation, lien, or charge for or upon which said district was and may become liable or chargeable, had such change of its boundaries not been made, or had not such land been excluded from the district.

*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea,* 88 Cal. 334, 26 Pac. 237;
*Herring* vs. *Modesto Dist.,* 95 Fed. 705;
*Drake* vs. *Schoregge, treasurer et al.,* (Mont.), 277 Pac. 627;
*Harelson* vs. *So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.,* 20 Cal. App. 324, 128 Pac. 1010.

### Petition for Exclusion.

SEC. 75. The owner or owners in fee of one or more tracts of land which constitute a portion of an irrigation district may jointly or severally file with the board of directors of the district a petition, praying that such tract or tracts, and any other tracts contiguous thereto, may be excluded and taken from said district. The petition shall state the grounds and reasons upon which it is claimed that such lands should be excluded, and shall describe the boundaries thereof, and also the lands of such petitioner or petitioners which are included within such boundaries; but the description of such lands need not be more particular or certain than is required when the lands are entered in the assessment book by the county assessor. Such petition must be acknowledged in the same manner and form as is required in the case of a conveyance of land, and the acknowledgment shall have the same force and effect as evidence as the acknowledgment of such a conveyance.

*Harelson* vs. *So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.,* 20 Cal. App. 324, 128 Pac. 1010.

### Notice of Filing of Petition; Order to Show Cause.

SEC. 76. The secretary of the board of directors shall cause a notice of the filing of such petition to be published for at least two weeks in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the board of directors is situated, and if any portion of such territory to be excluded lie within another county or counties, then said notice shall be so published in a newspaper published within each of said counties; or if no newspaper be published therein, then by posting such notice for the same time in at least three public places in said district, and in case of the posting of said notices, one of said notices must be so posted on the lands proposed to be excluded. The notice shall state the filing of such petition, the names of the petitioners, a description of the lands mentioned in said petition, and the prayer of said petition; and it shall notify all persons interested in, or who may be affected by such change of the boundaries of the district, to appear at the office of said board at a time named in said notice, and show cause, in writing, if any they have, why the change of the boundaries of said district, as proposed in said petition, should not be made. The time to be specified in the notice at which they shall be required to show cause shall be the regular meeting of the board next after the expiration of the time for the publication of the notice.

*Harelson* vs. *So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 20 Cal. App. 324, 128 Pac. 1010;
*Drake* vs. *Schoregge, treasurer et al.*, (Mont.), 277 Pac. 627.

### Hearing of Petition; Failure to Show Cause Deemed Assent.

SEC. 77. The board of directors, at the time and place mentioned in the notice, or at the time or times to which the hearing of said petition may be adjourned, shall proceed to hear the petition, and all evidence or proofs that may or shall be introduced by or on behalf of the petitioner or petitioners, and all objections to such petition that may or shall be presented in writing by any person showing cause as aforesaid, and all evidence and proofs that may be introduced in support of such objections. Such evidence shall be taken down in shorthand, and a record made thereof and filed with the board. The failure of any person interested in said district, other than the holders of bonds thereof outstanding at the time of the filing of said petition with said board, to show cause, in writing, why the tract or tracts of land mentioned in said petition should not be excluded from said district, shall be deemed and taken as an assent by him to the exclusion of such tract or tracts of land, or any part thereof, from said district; and the filing of such petition with said board, as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken as an assent by each and all such petitioners to the exclusion from such district of the lands mentioned in the petition, or any part thereof. The expenses of giving said notice and of the aforesaid proceeding shall be paid by the person or persons filing such petition.

*Harelson* vs. *So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 20 Cal. App. 324, 128 Pac. 1010.

### Determination by Board; Powers and Duties.

SEC. 78. If, upon the hearing of any such petition, no evidence or proofs in support thereof be introduced, or if the evidence fail to sustain said petition, or if the board deem it not for the best interest of the district that the lands, or some portion thereof, mentioned in the petition, should be excluded from the district, the board shall order that said petition be denied as to such lands; but if the said board deem it for the best interest of the district that the lands mentioned in the petition, or some portion thereof, be excluded from the district, and if no person interested in the district show cause in writing why the said lands or some portion thereof, should not be excluded from the district, or if, having shown cause, withdraws the same, or upon the hearing fails to establish such objections as he may have made, then it shall be the duty of the board to, and it shall forthwith, make an order that the lands mentioned and described in the petition, or some defined portion thereof, be excluded from said district; provided, that it shall be the duty of said board to order, upon petition therefor as aforesaid, that all lands so petitioned to be excluded from said district shall be excluded therefrom which in the judgment of the board will not be benefited by the operations of the district. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 233.)

*Harelson* vs. *So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 20 Cal. App. 324, 128 Pac. 1010;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea*, 88 Cal. 334, 26 Pac. 237;
*Miller & Lux* vs. *Secara*, 193 Cal. 755, 227 Pac. 171;
*Hand* vs. *El Dorado Irr. Dist.*, 97 Cal. App. 740, 276 Pac. 137;
*Shull* vs. *Merced Irr. Dist.*, 90 Cal. App. 270, 265 Pac. 965.

### Assent of Bondholders; Release From Lien.

SEC. 79. If there be outstanding bonds of the district at the time of the filing of said petition, the holders of such outstanding bonds may give their assent, in writing, to the effect that they severally consent that the lands mentioned in the petition, or such portion thereof as may be excluded from said district by order of said board, or the decree of the superior court as hereinafter provided, may be excluded from the district; and if said lands, or any portion thereof, be thereafter excluded from the district, the lands so excluded shall be released from the lien of such outstanding bonds. The assent must be acknowledged by the several holders of such bonds in the same manner and form as is required in case of a conveyance of land, and the acknowledgment shall have the same force and effect as evidence as the acknowledgement of such conveyance. The assent shall be filed with the board, and must be recorded in the minutes of the board; and said minutes, or a copy thereof, certified by the secretary of said board, shall be admissible in evidence, with the same effect as the said assent, and such certified copy thereof may be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county wherein said lands are situated.

### Order of Board to Be Recorded; Organization Not Affected.

SEC. 80. In the event the said board of directors shall exclude any lands from said district upon petition therefor, it shall be the duty of the board of directors to make an entry in the minutes of the board, describing the boundaries of the district, should the exclusion of said lands from said district change the boundaries of said district, and for that purpose the board may cause a survey to be made of such portions of the district as the board may deem necessary; and a certified copy of the entry in the minutes of the board excluding any land, certified by the president and secretary of the board, shall be filed for record in the recorder's office of each county within which are situated any of the lands of the district; but said district, notwithstanding such exclusion, shall be and remain an irrigation district as fully, to every intent and purpose, as it would be had no change been made in the boundaries of the district, or had the lands excluded therefrom never constituted a portion of the district.

### Office of Director of Excluded Division Declared Vacant.

SEC. 81. If the lands excluded from any district under this act shall embrace the greater portion of any division or divisions of such district, then the office of director for such division or divisions shall become and be vacant at the expiration of ten days from the final order of the board excluding said lands; and such vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the board of supervisors of the county where the office of such board is situated, from the district at large. A director appointed as above provided, shall hold his office until the next regular election for said district, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

### When Land Excluded Board May Reestablish Boundaries of Divisions and Precincts.

SEC. 82. In case land is excluded from any district, the board of directors thereof, if they deem it desirable, but not less than thirty days before any election in such district, may reestablish the boundaries of the divisions and election precincts within such district. (Stats 1921, p. 860.)

### Authority of Personal Representative.

SEC. 83. A guardian and executor, or an administrator of an estate, who is appointed as such under the laws of this state, and who, as such guardian, executor, or administrator, is entitled to the possession of the lands belonging to the estate which he represents, may, on behalf of his ward, or the estate which he represents, upon being thereto properly authorized by the proper court, sign and acknowledge the petition in this act mentioned, and may show cause, as in this act provided, why the boundaries of the district should not be changed.

### Lands Excluded Not Released From Prior Indebtedness.

SEC. 84. Nothing in this act provided shall, in any manner, operate to release any of the lands so excluded from the district from any obligation to pay, or any lien thereon, of any valid outstanding bonds or other indebtedness of said district at the time of the filing of said petition for the exclusion of said lands, but upon the contrary, said lands shall be held subject to said lien and answerable and chargeable for and with the payment and discharge of all of said outstanding obligations at the time of the filing of the petition for the exclusion of said land, as fully as though said petition for such exclusion were never filed and said order or decree of exclusion never made; and for the purpose of discharging such outstanding indebtedness, said lands so excluded shall be deemed and considered as part of said irrigation district the same as though said petition for its exclusion had never been filed or said decree of execution never made; and all provisions which may have been resorted to to compel the payment by said lands of its quota or portion of said outstanding obligations, had said exclusion never been accomplished, may, notwithstanding said exclusion, be resorted to to compel and enforce the payment on the part of said lands of its quota and portion of said outstanding obligations of said irrigation district for which it is liable, as herein provided. But said land so excluded shall not be held answerable or chargeable for any obligation of any nature or kind whatever, incurred after the filing with the board of directors of said district of the petition for the exclusion of said lands from the said district; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to any outstanding bonds, the holders of which have assented to the exclusion of such lands from said district, as hereinbefore provided. Provided, further, that if within ten days of the time of any order excluding any lands from an irrigation district, other lands of equal or greater assessable value, have been included within the district, such excluded lands shall no longer be subject to further assessment by the district, except in the event of proceedings on behalf of the bondholders to enforce the payment by said excluded lands of their pro rata share of any principal or interest due and unpaid on the district's bonded indebtedness incurred while such excluded lands were part of such irrigation district. (Stats. 1929, p. 689.)

*Drake* vs. *Schoregge, Treasurer et al.*, (Mont.), 277 Pac. 627.

## INCLUSION OF LANDS

### Boundaries May Be Changed to Include Lands; Effect on Organization, Obligation, Etc.

SEC. 85. The boundaries of any irrigation district organized or existing under the provisions of this act may be changed to include additional land within such district as hereinafter in this act provided, and the inclusion within any district of any land not contiguous thereto shall be deemed to effect a change of the boundaries of said district; but no change in the boundaries of any district shall impair or affect its organization or its right in or to property, or any of its rights or privileges of whatever kind or nature, nor shall it affect, impair or discharge any contract, obligation, lien or charge for or upon which it was or might become liable or chargeable had such change of its boundaries not been made. (Stats. 1927, p. 191.)

*Gray* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 307, 197 Pac. 384.

### Petition for Inclusion.

SEC. 86. The holder or holders of title, or evidence of title, or a majority of the holders of title, or evidence of title of any tract of land may file in the office of the board of directors of any irrigation district a petition praying that said tract of land be included within said district; provided, that if there is more than one holder of title or evidence of title of said land, the petitioners must include the holders of title or evidence of title of at least one-half of the area of said land. If any petitioner is the owner of an undivided interest in said land, or any of it, he shall be deemed to be the owner of such proportion of the area of the land in which he has an interest as his interest bears to the whole of such land. Each signature to such petition shall be acknowledged or proved as provided by law for signatures to an instrument to entitle it to be recorded. (Stats. 1927, p. 192.)

*Gray* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 304, 197 Pac. 389;
*People* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 307, 197 Pac. 384.

### Notice of Filing of Petition; Order to Show Cause.

SEC. 87. The secretary of the board of directors shall cause a notice of the filing of said petition to be given and published in the same manner and for the same time as notices of special elections for the issuance of bonds are required in this act to be given and published. The notice shall state the purpose of the petition and describe the boundaries of the tract of land proposed to be included and give the names of the petitioners, and it shall notify all persons interested in or that may be affected by the proposed inclusion of said land within the district to appear at the office of said board at a time named in said notice for the hearing of said petition and objections thereto and show cause in writing, if any they have, why said land or any of it should not be included as proposed in said petition. The time to be specified in the notice for the hearing of said petition and any objections thereto shall be the regular meeting of the board next after the expiration of the time for the publication of said notice. The petitioners shall advance to the secretary sufficient money to pay for the publication of said notice. (Stats. 1927, p. 192.)

### Hearing of Petition; Failure to Show Cause Deemed Assent.

SEC. 88. The board of directors, at the time and place mentioned in the said notice, or at such other time or times to which the hearing of said petition may be adjourned, shall proceed to hear the petition, and all the objections thereto, presented in writing by any person showing cause as aforesaid why said proposed change of the boundaries of the district should not be made. The failure by any person interested in said district, or in the matter of the proposed change of its boundaries, to show cause, in writing, as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken as an assent on his part to a change of the boundaries of the district as prayed for in said petition, or to such a change thereof as will include a part of said lands. And the filing of such petition with said board, as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken as an assent on the part of each and all of such petitioners to such a change of said boundaries that they may include the whole or any portion of the lands described in said petition.

### Board May Impose As Condition Precedent Payment of Prior Assessments.

SEC. 89. The board of directors to whom such petition is presented, may require, as a condition precedent to the granting of the same, that the petitioners shall severally pay to such district such respective sums, as nearly as the same can be estimated (the several amounts to be determined by the board), as said petitioners or their grantors would have been required to pay to such district as assessments, had such lands been included in such district at the time the same was originally formed.

*Nile Irr. Dist.* vs *G. S. Co.*, 248 Fed. 861.

**Determination by Board; Powers and Duties; Imposition of Conditions.**

SEC. 90. If the board of directors, after the hearing provided for in section 88 hereof, shall determine that said petition complies with the requirements of section 86 hereof and that the inclusion within the district of the tract of land described in said petition, or some portion or portions thereof, will be for the best interests of the district, and if no protest against the inclusion of such land is made as provided in section 91 hereof, or if such protest be made and enough signatures be withdrawn therefrom so that said protest is no longer sufficient, the board shall order the boundaries of the district to be changed so that said tract of land, or such portion or portions thereof as the board shall deem it for the best interests of the district to include, shall be included within the district, but no land shall be so included unless the board, after the hearing aforesaid, shall determine that it can be irrigated by means of some of the works of the district or by means of practicable works connecting therewith and will be benefited by such irrigation; and if the board determines that only a portion or certain portions of the tract of land described in said petition should be included, said petition shall be dismissed unless the petitioners include a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title of said portion, or of each of said portions, of said tract, representing also at least one-half the area of said portion, or of each of said portions, or unless, within sixty days from the time such determination is made, there shall be filed with the board the consent in writing, acknowledged or proved as required in section 86 hereof, of a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title of said portion, or of each of said portions of said tract of land, representing also at least one-half of the area of said portion or of each of said portions. The order shall describe the boundaries of the land so included within the district, and if said land adjoins any portion of the district the order shall also describe that portion of the boundary of the district which coincides with the boundary of the land so included, and for the purposes of said order the board may cause a survey to be made of such portions of said boundaries as may be deemed necessary. If more than one petition for the inclusion of land has been presented, the board may in one order include within the district any number of separate tracts of land. Any public land of the United States of America may be included within any irrigation district by such order of the board of directors without any petition therefor except as may be required by the laws of the United States, if such land can be irrigated by means of any of the works of the district or by any practicable works connecting therewith and will be benefited by such irrigation. When the board finds that the inclusion of any land within an irrigation district without condition would work an injury to the land already within the district, the board may prescribe conditions upon such inclusion of land either by providing for priority of right to water for the land already in the district or for the payment of an additional annual charge upon the land included or such other conditions as may to the board seem just. If any such conditions are prescribed by the board all the owners of the land subject to such conditions must, before any order for its inclusion is made, sign an agreement with the district describing the land so to be included and specifying such conditions. The signatures to said agreement must be acknowledged or proved as provided by law for the signatures of instruments to be recorded, and said agreement must be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county in which such lands are situated. and thereupon and upon the recording of a copy of the order including such lands as hereinafter provided, such lands shall become a part of the district subject to the conditions of said agreement.

Or in lieu of the execution and recording of such agreement signed and acknowledged by the owners of land to be included subject to such conditions the board of directors may adjourn said hearing for not less than thirty days nor more than sixty days and shall give notice of the time and place of such adjourned hearing by publication in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the office of the board of directors is located and in which the lands affected are situate for not less than once a week for three consecutive weeks; said notice so published shall set out at length the conditions proposed to be imposed and directing all persons interested to appear at the time and place specified in said notice and show cause, if any they have, why such conditions should not be imposed. At such hearing, or at any further adjournment thereof duly entered upon the minutes, the board of directors may by resolution adopt, reject, or modify such conditions as may be just and make the order hereinabove provided for containing such of said conditions as may have been adopted and such order shall be final and conclusive upon a copy thereof duly certified by the secretary of the board having been recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the lands affected are situate; provided, that said certified copy of such order shall not be recorded for a period of thirty days from and after the making of such order, during which thirty days a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title of the land described in the petition for inclusion and representing also more than one-half of the area of said tract or tracts of land, may file with the secretary of the board of directors a statement or statements in writing signed and acknowledged in the form required for the conveyance of real property, objecting to the inclusion of such lands with the conditions imposed thereon, whereupon said objections shall be laid before the board of directors and if the board finds the same to be in the form required by this section and signed by a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title of the tract or tracts of land described in said petition for inclusion, and also representing more than one-half of the area of land described in said petition, then the board of directors shall enter in its minutes an order dismissing said petition for inclusion and no further proceedings shall be had thereon, but such order of dismissal shall be without prejudice to the filing of another petition or other petitions for inclusion of the same land or any part thereof; and provided further, that agreeable to the laws of the United States and the proper regulations or consent of any authorized department thereof, or the laws of this state as the case may be, such conditions as the board of directors shall deem equitable and just may be imposed upon any public lands of the United States or of this state as a part of the order of inclusion without the agreement or hearing provided for in this section. (Stats. 1929, p. 687.)

### Protest to Inclusion.

SEC. 91. If a protest against the inclusion of such lands, signed by not less than three per cent of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands within the district and holding the title or evidence of title to not less than three per cent in value of the lands within the district according to the last equalized assessment roll of said district, shall have been presented to the board of directors and upon the hearing of said matter said protest shall not be withdrawn, or after the withdrawal therefrom of any signatures it shall still be signed by not less than three per cent of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands within the district and holding the title or evidence of title to not less than three per cent in value of the lands within the district according to the last equalized assessment roll of said district, or if the board of directors deem it not for the best interests of the district to include therein the lands described in said petition for inclusion, or any of them, the board shall adopt a resolution stating the facts and describing the boundary of the tract of land proposed to be included in the district; but before calling the election provided for in the next section, the board may require an undertaking, with sufficient sureties, from the petitioners for the inclusion of said land conditioned that the petitioners or the sureties will pay all the costs of holding such election in case such inclusion shall be denied. (Stats. 1921, p. 1000.)

*Board of Directors* vs. *Peterson* (Ore.), 128 Pac. 837.

### Notice of Election; Ballots.

SEC. 92. Upon the adoption of the resolution mentioned in the last preceding section, the board shall order that an election be held within said district, to determine whether the boundaries of the district shall be changed as mentioned in said resolution; and shall fix the time at which such election shall be held, and cause notice thereof to be given and published. Such notice shall be given and published, and such election shall be held and conducted, the returns thereof shall be made and canvassed, and the result of the election ascertained and declared, and all things pertaining thereto conducted in the manner prescribed by said act in case of a special election to determine whether bonds of an irrigation district shall be issued. The ballots cast at said election shall contain the words "For change of boundary," or "Against change of boundary," or words equivalent thereto. The notice of election shall describe the proposed change of the boundaries in such manner and terms that it can readily be traced.

### Election on Inclusion; Majority Vote.

SEC. 93. If at such election a majority of all the votes cast at said election shall be against such change of the boundaries of the district, the board shall order that said petition be denied, and shall proceed no further in that matter. But if a majority of such votes be in favor of such change of the boundaries of the district, the board shall thereupon order that the boundaries be changed in accordance with said resolution adopted by the board. The said order shall describe the entire boundaries of said district, and for that purpose the board may cause a survey of such portions thereof to be made as the board may deem necessary.

### Election on Inclusion With Conditions Imposed.

SEC. 93a. If a sufficient protest against the inclusion of any lands shall have been presented to the board of directors and maintained as provided in section 91, and the board of directors nevertheless finds and declares that the inclusion of said lands or a portion thereof with certain conditions imposed will be for the best interests of the district, the board shall proceed the same as if no protest had been filed until the conditions imposed shall become final as provided by section 90, except that the order changing the boundaries of the district with such conditions upon the lands to be included as may have been imposed shall not be recorded in the office of the county recorder and said order shall not be effective for any purpose until, as the result of an election thereon, which the board shall thereupon order as provided by section 92, it is found and declared by the board that a majority of all the votes cast at such election were in favor of said change in boundaries with the conditions named. Thereupon a certified copy of the order changing the boundaries with the conditions imposed set out therein, together with a certified copy of the order declaring the result of such election, shall be recorded as provided by section 90 and become final. The same procedure regarding such election shall be followed as provided by section 92, except that the ballot cast at such election shall contain the words "For change of boundaries with conditions" or "Against change of boundaries with conditions" and the notice of election, in addition to other requirements, shall contain a brief statement of the conditions imposed. If a majority of all the votes cast at such election shall be against such change of boundaries with conditions, the board shall order that the petition be denied. (Stats. 1931, p. 2206.)

### Order of Board to Be Recorded.

SEC. 94. Upon a change of he boundaries of a district being made, a copy of the order of the board of directors ordering such change, certified by the president and secretary of the board, shall be filed for record in the recorder's office of each county within which are situated any of the lands of the district, and thereupon the district shall be and remain an irrigation district, as fully, and to every intent and purpose, as if the lands which are included in the district by the change of the boundaries, as aforesaid, had been included therein at the original organization of the district.

### Recording Petition in Minutes.

SEC. 95. Upon the filing of the copies of the order, as in the last preceding section mentioned, the secretary shall record in the minutes of the board the petition aforesaid; and the said minutes, or a certified copy thereof, shall be admissible in evidence, with the same effect as the petition.

### Authority of Personal Representative.

SEC. 96. A guardian, an executor or an administrator of an estate, who is appointed as such under the laws of this state, and who, as such guardian, executor, or administrator, is entitled to the possession of the lands belonging to the estate which he represents, may, on behalf of his ward, or the estate which he represents, upon being thereunto authorized by the proper court, sign and acknowledge the petition in this act mentioned, and may show cause, as in this act mentioned, why the boundaries of the district should not be changed.

### Reestablishment of Divisions and Precincts.

SEC. 97. In case land is included within any district as aforesaid, the board of directors thereof shall, but not less than thirty days before any election in such district, reestablish the boundaries of the divisions and election precincts within such district, so as to include such land therein and so as to make such divisions as nearly equal in size and population as may be practicable. In case of the inclusion of any land less than thirty days before an eection within such district, the inhabitants of the land so included shall not be entitled to vote at such election. (Stats. 1921, p. 861.)

## REDUCTION OF BONDED INDEBTEDNESS

### Call for Special Election.

SEC. 98. Whenever the board of directors of an irrigation district heretofore organized, or hereafter organized under the provisions of this act, shall determine that the authorized bonded indebtedness of such irrigation district is greater than such district is liable to need to complete its system as planned, and there be no outstanding bonds, the board of directors may call a special election for the purpose of voting upon a proposition to reduce such bonded indebtedness to such sum as the board may determine to be sufficient for such purpose.

### Notice of Election; Ballots.

SEC. 99. Notice of the said election shall be given in the same manner as provided in section 30 of said act, in relation to calling special elections for issuance of bonds. The notice of election must state the amount of the authorized bonded indebtedness of such district, and the amount to which it is proposed to reduce the same; also, the date on which said election will be held, and the polling places, as established by said board of directors. The ballots cast at said election shall contain the words, "For reducing bonds—Yes," or "For reducing bonds—No." When the vote is canvassed by the board of directors and entered of record, if a majority of the votes cast shall be "For reducing bonds—Yes," then in that event the board of directors shall only be empowered to issue or sell such amount of bonds as was stipulated in the said notice of such special election; but if a majority of said votes are not "For reducing bonds—Yes," then the authority to issue bonds shall remain the same as before said special election was held.

### Assent of Bondholders.

SEC. 99½. In case there be outstanding bonds of any district desiring to take advantage of the provisions of this act concerning reduction of bonded indebtedness, the assent of such bondholders may be obtained to such reduction of the bonded indebtedness, in the same manner as provided in section 79 of this act. If such assent is obtained in the manner therein provided, then, and in that event, such district shall be empowered to take advantage of all the provisions of this act, but not otherwise. No reduction of the bonded indebtedness, as in this act provided, shall in any manner affect any order of court that may have been made, adjudicating and confirming the validity of said bonds.

## LEASE OF WATER

### Authority of Board to Lease.

Sec. 100. Whenever any irrigation district, heretofore organized, or hereafter organized under the provisions of this act, in the development of its works as by law provided, may have opportunity, without increased expenditure, to utilize the water by it owned or controlled, for mechanical purposes not inconsistent with the provisions of said act, the board of directors may lease the same, as in this act hereinafter provided.

### Procedure; Resolution; Call for Bids.

Sec. 101. Whenever the board of directors may desire to lease the use of water, as hereinbefore stated, they shall pass a resolution of intention to so lease the same. Immediately thereafter the secretary shall cause notice of such intention to be given by publication in one newspaper published in each county in which lands of the district are situated, for at least twenty days (provided, a newspaper is published therein, otherwise in any newspaper the board of directors may select), and, if the board thinks proper in such other newspapers as may be deemed advisable, calling for bids for the leasing of said water for the purposes hereinbefore mentioned. Said notice shall state that the board will receive sealed proposals therefor, that the lease will be let to the highest responsible bidder, stating the time and place of opening said proposals.

### Opening Proposals.

Sec. 102. At the time and place appointed the board shall proceed to open the proposals in public. As soon thereafter as may be convenient the board shall let said lease in portions, or as a whole, to the highest responsible bidder, or they may reject any or all bids, and readvertise for proposals for the same.

### Rentals.

Sec. 103. The rental accruing upon said lease may vary from year to year, as shall be specified in said lease, and shall be payable semiannually, on the thirtieth day of December and thirtieth day of June of each year. All moneys collected, as in this act provided, shall be paid into the treasury, and be apportioned to such funds as may be deemed advisable.

### Period of Lease; Forfeiture.

Sec. 104. The board shall have power, as in this act provided, to execute a lease for any period not exceeding twenty-five years. If at any time the rental shall not be paid on the days hereinbefore mentioned, the amount of such rental then due shall be doubled, and if not paid within ninety days, thereafter, the said lease shall be forfeited to said district, together with any and all works constructed, owned, used, or controlled by said lessee.

**Bond of Lessee.**

Sec. 105. Upon the letting of any lease, as in this act provided, the board may require the lessee to execute a bond for the faithful performance of the covenants of said lease, or give such other evidence of good faith as in their judgment may be necessary.

## DESTRUCTION OF UNSOLD BONDS

**Call for Special Election.**

Sec. 106. Whenever there remains in the hands of the board of directors of any irrigation district heretofore organized, or organized under the provisions of this act, after the completion of its ditch system, and the payment of all demands against such district, any bonds voted to be issued by said district, but not sold, and not necessary to be sold for the raising of funds for the use of such district, said board of directors may call a special election for the purpose of voting upon a proposition to destroy said unsold bonds, or so many of them as may be deemed best, or may submit such proposition at a general election.

*La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.* vs. *Halley*, 197 Cal. 50, 239 Pac. 719.

**Notice of Election; Ballots.**

Sec. 107. Such election shall be held in the same manner as other elections held under the provisions of this act. A notice of such election shall be given in the same manner as provided in section thirty of this act in relation to calling special elections for the issuance of bonds. The notice of election must state the amount of the bonded indebtedness of such district authorized by the vote of the district, the amount of the bonds remaining unsold, and the amount proposed to be destroyed, and the date upon which such election is proposed to be held, and the polling places as fixed by the board of directors. The ballots to be cast at such election shall contain the words "For destroying bonds—Yes," and "For destroying bonds—No," and the voter must erase the word "No" in case he favors the destruction of bonds, otherwise the word "Yes."

*La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.* vs. *Halley*, 197 Cal. 50, 239 Pac. 719.

**Two-thirds Vote; Destruction of Bonds.**

Sec. 108. When the vote is canvassed by the board of directors and entered of record, if a two-thirds majority of the votes cast should be found to be in favor of the destruction of said bonds, then the president of the board, in the presence of a majority of the members of the board, must destroy the bonds so voted to be destroyed; and the total amount of bonds so destroyed and canceled shall be deducted from the sum authorized to be issued by the electors of said district, and no part thereof shall thereafter be reprinted or reissued.

*La Mesa, L. G. & S. V. Irr. Dist.* vs. *Halley*, 197 Cal. 50, 239 Pac. 719.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Validity of Existing Districts Not Affected; Existing Rights and Obligations Not Impaired.

SEC. 109. Nothing in this act shall be so construed as to affect the validity of any district heretofore organized under the laws of this state, or its rights in or to property, or any of its rights or privileges of whatsoever kind or nature; but said districts are hereby made subject to the provisions of this act so far as applicable; nor shall it affect, impair, or discharge any contract, obligation, lien, or charge for or upon which it was or might become liable or chargeable had not this act been passed; nor shall it affect the validity of any bonds which have been issued but not sold; nor shall it affect any action which now may be pending.

*Tulare Irr. Dist.* vs. *Collins,* 154 Cal. 440, 97 Pac. 1124;
*Board of Sup'rs* vs. *Thompson,* 122 Fed. 860–862;
*Herring* vs. *Modesto Irr. Dist.,* 95 Fed. 709.

### Name May Be Changed From "Irrigation" to "Water Conservation" District.

SEC. 109a. The name of any district hereafter organized hereunder shall contain either the words ''irrigation district'' or ''water conservation district.'' Any district heretofore or hereafter organized and existing, the name of which shall include the words ''irrigation district'' may change its said name by substituting for the word ''irrigation,'' ''water conservation'' by filing with the board or supervisors with which was filed the original petition for the organization of the district, a certified copy of a resolution of its board of directors adopted by the unanimous vote of all the members of said board at a regular meeting thereof providing for such change of name; and thereafter all proceedings of such district shall be had under such changed name, but all existing obligations and contracts of the district entered into under its former name shall remain outstanding without change and with the validity thereof unimpaired and unaffected by such change of name. (Stats. 1921, p. 1110.)

See *Post "Change of District Name."*

### Effect on Prior Acts.

SEC. 110. Nothing in this act shall be construed as repealing or in any wise modifying the provisions of any other act relating to the subject of irrigation or water commissioners, except such as may be contained in the act, an act entitled an act to provide for the organization and government of irrigation districts, and to provide for the acquisition of water and other property, and for the distribution of water thereby for irrigation purposes, approved March 7, 1887, and the subsequent acts supplementary thereto, and amendatory thereof, all of which acts, so far as they may be inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed.

*Board of Sup'rs* vs. *Thompson,* 122 Fed. 860.

### Time of Taking Effect.

SEC. 111. This act shall take effect from and after its passage and approval.

**Title of Act.**

SEC. 112. This act may be referred to in any action, proceeding or legislative enactment as "the California irrigation district act." (Stats. 1919, p. 669.)

Constitutionality:

Act is constitutional.

*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *Williams*, 76 Cal. 360, 18 Pac. 379;
*Board of Directors* vs. *Tregea*, 88 Cal. 334, 26 Pac. 237;
*In re Madera Irr. Dist.*, 92 Cal. 296, 28 Pac. 272, 675;
*In re Central Irr. Dist.*, 117 Cal. 382, 49 Pac. 354;
*In re Bonds of So. San Joaquin Irr. Dist.*, 161 Cal. 345, 119 Pac. 198;
*Fallbrook Irr. Dist.* vs. *Bradley*, 164 U. S. 112, 41 L. Ed. 369.

Public corporation:

Irrigation district is public corporation or *quasi* corporation.

*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *Williams, supra;*
*Central Irr. Dist.* vs. *DeLappe*, 79 Cal. 351, 21 Pac. 825;
*Crall* vs. *Poso Irr. Dist.*, 87 Cal. 140, 26 Pac. 797;
*In re Madera Irr. Dist., supra;*
*People* vs. *Selma Irr. Dist.*, 98 Cal. 206, 32 Pac. 1047;
*People* vs. *Turnbull*, 93 Cal. 630, 29 Pac. 224;
*Tulare Irr. Dist.* vs. *Collins*, 154 Cal. 440, 97 Pac. 1124;
*Bettencourt vs. Ind. Acc. Com.*, 175 Cal. 559, 166 Pac. 323;
*Turlock Irr. Dist.* vs. *White*, 186 Cal. 183, 198 Pac. 1060;
*People* vs. *Cardiff Irr. Dist.*, 51 Cal. App. 304, 197 Pac. 389;
*Lindsay-Strathmore Irr. Dist.* vs. *Superior Court*, 182 Cal. 315, 187 Pac. 1056.

Validity of organization:

May not be questioned by private party.

*Miller* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 85 Fed. 693.

Can not be attacked collaterally.

*Quint* vs. *Hoffman*, 103 Cal. 506, 37 Pac. 777;
*Knowles* vs. *New Sweden Irr. Dist.* (Idaho), 101 Pac. 81;
*Quinton* vs. *Equitable Inv. Co.*, 196 Fed. 314;
*Tulare Irr. Dist.* vs. *Shepard*, 185 U. S. 1.

## 2. CHANGE OF DISTRICT NAME

*An act to provide for the change of name of irrigation districts.*

(Approved April 6, 1929; Stats. 1929, p. 136.)

SECTION 1. Whenever any irrigation district in this state has been organized under the California irrigation district act under the same name as that of another irrigation district theretofore organized in this state, the board of directors of the last organized irrigation district shall, by a resolution duly adopted by said board, change the name of said irrigation district. Said resolution shall be spread in full upon the minutes of said board and a certified copy of the same shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder in each of the counties in which any portion of the land in such irrigation district is located, and a copy sent to the state engineer and a copy to the California bond certification commission. (Stats. 1929, p. 136.)

## 3. IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS WITHIN IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

*An act to provide for the organization and creation of improvement districts within irrigation districts organized under the California irrigation district act; to provide for the acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance and repair of improvements therein, and for the levy of assessments on the lands of such improvement districts.*

(Approved May 25, 1927, Stats. 1927, p. 1415; amended Stats. 1929, p. 343, 1931, p. 697.)

### Petition to Organize District.

SECTION 1. Two-thirds in number of the holders of title, or evidence of title to any tract or contiguous tracts of land situate within any irrigation district organized and existing under the California irrigation district act and susceptible of irrigation or being served by a domeste water supply, by a system of laterals, ditches, and pipes, or requiring a system of pumps for the irrigation thereof, or drains or drainage works for the drainage thereof, or requiring the acquisition of existing laterals, ditches, pipes, pumps or other works incidental to a water distribution system, separate and apart from or supplementary to the works of said irrigation district, or desiring a change therein or improvement thereof, or desiring maintenance of existing irrigation ditches and structures therein, or control of weeds in or along such ditches, may petition the board of directors of such irrigation district to organize and create an improvement district, for the purpose of providing such means of irrigation, furnishing of a domestic supply of water, or drainage, or for the acquisition of existing laterals, ditches, pipes, pumps or other works incidental to a water distribution system for the lands described in said petition, or the said change and improvement thereof, or for maintenance of existing irrigation ditches and structures therein, or control of weeds, and for the levy of an assessment or assessments for the payment of the costs thereof. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

Constitutionality.

*Moore* vs. *Thornburg,* 208 Cal. 657, 284 Pac. 218;

Similar districts in other states.

*Comm'rs* vs. *Shaw* (Ill.), 96 N. E. 984;
*Comm'rs* vs. *Boyd, etc., Dr. Dist.* (Ill.), 113 N. E. 85;
*Kohl* vs. *Choteau, etc., Dist.* (Ill.), 118 N. E. 999;
*Gottschall* vs. *Zipple* (Ill.), 140 N. E. 13.

### Contents of Petition.

SEC. 2. Said petition shall contain a statement of the plans of the proposed improvement or of the existing improvement, if any, proposed to be acquired, a description of the boundaries of such proposed improvement district, the names of the owners of all lands within such improvement district with their last known addresses and a description of the land owned thereby which petition shall be signed by the requisite number of landowners. A certificate of acknowledgment or proof of signature taken before a notary public or justice of the peace of any state or any acknowledgment taken according to the laws of the State of California, or an affidavit by any person in the presence of whom such petition was signed shall be sufficient evidence of the genuineness of such signature. The petition may consist of any number of separate instruments. Such petition and all proceedings in reference thereto, and the lands affected thereby, and said improvement district shall be designated by number, and the description of the parcels of land shall be according to the last duly equalized assessment book of the irrigation district, and said assessment roll shall be conclusive evidence as to the holders of title or evidence of title to said lands. Guardians, executors, administrators or other persons holding property in a trust capacity under appointment of court may sign any petition provided for in this act, when authorized by an order of court, which order may be made without notice. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

### Survey; Preparation of Plans, Specifications and Proposed Assessment.

Sec. 3. Upon receipt of such petition the board of directors of said district shall cause a survey to be made of the proposed improvement, or of the improvement proposed to be acquired and if, upon such survey, it is found that the construction of the improvement or the acquisition of the existing laterals, ditches, pipes, pumps or other works is feasible, the board shall cause to be prepared an estimate of the cost thereof, and if the proposal be for construction of an improvement, the board shall also cause to be prepared plans and specifications of the improvements. In either case, the board shall cause to be prepared a statement and assessment of the amount of such costs apportioned to each tract of land in said improvement district, as said tracts of land are shown upon the last equalized assessment book of the district, according to the benefits that will accrue to each of said tracts of land in said improvement district respectively, by reason of the expenditures of said sums of money for said improvements or acquisition. Said board of directors of said irrigation district are hereby designated and constituted a board of assessment commissioners to levy and apportion said assessment. Said petition, plans, specifications and proposed assessment shall be filed in the office of said district and shall be subject to the inspection of all parties interested. (Stats. 1929, p. 344.)

### Notice of Hearing Upon Petition and Proposed Special Assessment.

Sec. 4. After filing of such plans and specifications, if any, and of said estimate, statement and assessment, said board shall give notice of a hearing upon said petition and whether a special assessment shall be levied upon the lands within said improvement district for the purpose of raising money to pay for such improvements, as set forth in such petition, plans, specifications, statement and assessment, notice of which hearing shall be given by posting a notice thereof in three public places within said proposed improvement district, the publication of such notice once a week for two weeks in some newspaper published in the county in which the office of said irrigation district is situated, and mailing a copy thereof to the last known address of all of the owners of said lands in said improvement district, as such address appears in said petition. Such notice shall be posted and mailed not less than twenty days prior to the date set for said hearing. (Stats. 1929, p. 344.)

### Hearing; Modification of Petition; Change of Boundaries.

Sec. 5. At said hearing said board shall hear such objections to the said petition and to the formation of said improvement district and its boundaries, and to the said plans, specifications and estimates, and to said proposed assessment and the apportionment thereof as may come before them and at such hearing shall make such changes in reference thereto as they may consider proper. The board may exclude any part or portion of the lands described in said petition from said improvement district, and may include additional lands; provided, however, that if any additional lands are included therein, the hearing of said petition shall be continued and the owners of said added lands be given not less than twenty days personal notice of the addition of such lands to said improvement district. If more than one-third in number of the holders of title or evidence of tile of lands within said improvement district shall object, at said hearing, to the formation of said improvement district and the levy of said proposed assessment, said board of directors shall deny said petition and no further proceeding shall be had thereon.

### Order Creating District and Levying Special Assessment.

SEC. 6. If at said hearing said board of directors shall determine and find that it would not be to the best interests of said irrigation district and improvement district to proceed with such improvement, or to acquire such improvements or to organize said improvement district for any of the purposes set forth in this act, then said board shall order said proceedings dismissed without prejudice to the renewal thereof. If, however, said board shall determine and find that it would be to the best interests of said irrigation district and said improvement district to proceed with such improvement, or the acquisition of such improvements or be organized for any of the purposes set forth in this act, they shall make a final order to be entered in the minutes of said board, approving said petition, creating said improvement district, levying said assessment, if such assessment is necessary for said purposes, and apportioning the same to the said lands according to benefits, which said assessment shall include a sum that shall equal interest on any deferred payments at a rate of not to exceed seven per cent per annum, and ten per cent additional for anticipated delinquencies. Said order shall contain a description of the boundaries of said improvement district, and the secretary of the board shall cause a certified copy thereof to be recorded in the office of the county recorder in each county in which any of said lands of said improvement district are located. Said assessment may be made payable in not to exceed ten annual installments and the board of directors of said irrigation district shall, at the time of the levy of the annual assessment of said district, add to the amount of the annual assessment levied upon said lands within said improvement district, such amount for which they may be liable by reason of the levying of said improvement district assessment, and if said annual irrigation district assessment is made payable in two installments then said improvement district assessment or the installment thereof shall likewise be made payable in two installments. Said improvement district assessment, and each installment thereof, shall be and remain a lien on said lands in the same manner as and be a part of the annual assessment of said irrigation district. At any time before the warrants provided for in section 7 of this act have been issued, the amount of any such assessment, exclusive of interest and the ten per cent added for anticipated delinquencies, may be paid in cash and such land shall thereafter not be subject to the annual assessments levied thereon for the purposes of the said improvement or acquisition; provided, however, that such lands shall be and remain liable for any assessments levied thereon for maintenance and operation and for any supplementary or additional assessments levied thereon under the provisions of this act. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

### Issuance of Warrants for Amount of Assessment.

SEC. 7. Said irrigation district shall have power to issue warrants signed by the president and secretary of the board of directors of said irrigation district, in face amount not exceeding in the aggregate the cost of said improvement and/or acquisition, exclusive of interest and the ten per cent added for anticipated delinquencies, which warrants shall be made payable in amounts and at the times corresponding substantially to the amounts and times of payments of the installments of said improvement district assessment, and shall bear interest at such rate of interest as may have been fixed on the levy of said mprovement district assessment. Coupons for the interest on said warrants may be attached thereto which may be made payable semiannually. Said warrants may be made payable to bearer or to persons furnishing work, labor or material, or if said work of improvement is done under contract as hereinafter provided, then to such contractor. Said warrants may be sold by the board of directors of the irrigation district for not less than par at either public or private sale. Said warrants shall be payable only out of funds derived from the levy and collection of said improvement district assessment on said lands, and shall be used solely for the acquisition or construction of the improvement for the acquisition or construction of which the improvement district shall have been organized, and the necessary incidental expenses. The board of directors of said irrigation district may, in their discretion, invest in such improvement district warrants any money held by such district in sinking or depreciation funds. Any landowner of the improvement district who shall desire at any time to lessen or remove the lien upon his land of any improvement district assessment on which warrants have been or hereafter may be issued, may deliver to the district treasurer for cancellation warrants payable out of said assessment, and the treasurer shall credit against the assessment on his land the principal and interest of said warrants; provided, however, that the board of directors of said district may require that such warrants so delivered and canceled shall be substantially of the average maturities of such issue of warrants. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

### Performance of Improvements; Receiving of Bids.

SEC. 8. The said work of improvement provided for in this act and the purchase of all necessary supplies, material and equipment therefor shall be performed and done by said irrigation district or in the discretion of the board of directors bids may be received for said work and material after such notice calling for bids as the board of directors may prescribe; provided, however, that the cost thereof shall be paid only out of assessments levied upon and collected from the said lands in said improvement district. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

### Additional and Supplemental Assessments; Inclusion of Lands; Dissolution.

Sec. 9. If said improvement district desires to do additional work or acquire additional property at any time upon the petition of two-thirds in numbers of the holders of title or evidence of title to said lands in said improvement district, an additional assessment, or assessments, may be levied substantially in the same manner as on the original assessment. If at any time it is desired that additional lands be included in said improvement district, a petition for such inclusion signed by the owners of such lands to be included and by two-thirds in number of the holders of title or evidence of title of lands in said improvement district, may be filed with the board of directors of said irrigation district, and the same proceedings had as upon the original petition for the organization of said improvement district. Said petition shall describe the boundaries of said improvement district as enlarged by such inclusions, and give the names and addresses of the owners of said lands in substantially the same manner as in said original petition. Should the assessments levied upon said lands in such improvement district be insufficient to pay in full the cost of such improvements or to pay the warrants issued for said improvements, an additional and supplemental assessment shall be made and levied upon all of said lands sufficient to pay said cost of said warrants in full, and the procedure followed in making such additional and supplemental levy of assessment shall be substantially the same as the levy of the original assessment, but without the necessity of a petition. If the proceeds from said assessment so levied shall exceed the final amount necessary for such purposes, said lands so paying said assessment shall be entitled to a credit in said excess amount upon the succeeding district annual assessment or assessments levied upon such land.

At any time prior to the incurring of any indebtedness or upon the full payment of all indebtedness of such improvement district, a petition signed and acknowledged by not less than the number of the holders of title, or evidence of title to the tracts of land constituting such improvement district required to organize such improvement district, may be filed with the board of directors of such irrigation district requesting that such improvement district be dissolved. A hearing shall be had in the same manner and after the same notice as is required for the organization of such improvement district, and the board of directors may, after such hearing, order such improvement district dissolved, which order shall be recorded in the same manner as the order organizing such improvement district.

Upon a change or resubdivision upon the assessment book of the irrigation district of any parcel of land within such improvement district, the board of directors, upon a petition of the owner or owners of such parcel of land so changed or resubdivided, may reapportion the improvement district assessment upon such parcel of land, and the order of such reapportionment shall be recorded in the same manner as the order levying the original assessment. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

### Powers of Board of Directors and Officers.

Sec. 10. Said board of directors and all other officers of said irrigation district shall have all the rights, powers and privileges concerning said improvement district, and lands thereof and the proceedings herein provided for, as such board may have concerning the irrigation district, of which it is a part, and including the right of said district, to condemn lands and to acquire, own and hold property within said improvement district. Said board of directors may also hold property either real or personal, used or acquired in said improvement in the name of said directors, and their successors in office, as trustees for such improvement district.

Said board of directors may allow, on such terms as may be agreed upon, any corporation, association, firm, or individual, to carry water through any canal, ditch, or conduit, for the improvement or acquisition of which the improvement district was organized, and may cancel the right for such use in the event that payments therefore are not made in accordance with the terms agreed upon. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

### Assessment for Operation and Maintenance of Funds.

SEC. 11. The board of directors of said irrigation district may include in the annual assessment, provided for by section 39 of the California Irrigation District Act, levied upon the lands in said improvement district, such additional amount as they may consider necessary for the operation, maintenance and repair of the canals and works of such improvement district for the ensuing year, and such funds when collected shall be deposited and kept in a separate fund for the benefit of such improvement district to be used for said purposes and shall be disbursed only upon warrants drawn upon said fund authorized and issued in the same manner as other warrants of such irrigation district. (Stats. 1929, p. 347.)

### Water Tolls in Lieu of Assessments.

SEC. 12. The board of directors of said irrigation district may, in lieu (either in whole or in part) of levying assessments for the operation, maintenance and repair of the canals and works of such improvement district, fix and collect rates of tolls or charges for the use of water or any other public use within the improvement district under the same conditions provided for similar tolls and charges in irrigation districts by sections 18, 39f and 55 of the California Irrigation District Act and such tolls and charges when collected shall be deposited and kept in a separate fund for the benefit of such improvement district to be used for said purposes and shall be disbursed only upon warrants drawn upon said fund authorized and issued in the same manner as other warrants of said irrigation district. (Stats. 1929, p. 348.)

### Title.

SEC. 13. This act shall be known and may be referred to in any action, proceeding, or legislative enactment, as the "Irrigation District Improvement Act." (Stats. 1929, p. 348.)

### Saving Clause.

SEC. 14. If any section, subdivision, clause, or phrase of this act be for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act, and the Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this act and each and every other section, subdivision, sentence, clause, and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, or phrases of this act be declared unconstitutional. (Stats. 1929, p. 348.)

**Decision of Board Final; Limitation of Time for Institution of Contest.**

SEC. 15. All actions, proceedings, conclusions and findings of fact of a board of directors of an irrigation district concerning an improvement district therein and the levying of assessments on the lands thereof shall be conclusive and final, and no action shall be brought or maintained concerning or attacking the same, unless such action is instituted within six months after such actions, proceedings, conclusions or findings were had and made or said assessments levied. (Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

**Action to Determine Validity of Assessments and Warrants.**

SEC. 16. The board of directors of the irrigation district in which said improvement district is located may, at any time after the levy of any assessment or the issuance of any warrants herein provided for, bring an action to determine the validity of such assessment or the issuance of such warrants in the same manner and with the same effect as provided for in sections 68 and 71 of the California irrigation district act for the determination of the validity of irrigation district bonds and assessments. (Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

**Defects Not Affecting Substantial Rights to Be Disregarded.**

SEC. 17. No irregularity, error, informality or omission not affecting the substantial rights of the landowners within an improvement district shall affect the validity of any act done or proceeding taken under the provisions of this act. (Stats. 1931, p. 697.)

## IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT VALIDATING ACT

*An act to validate all proceedings for the formation of improvement districts within irrigation districts and all assessments heretofore made in any such improvement districts, to validate all warrants heretofore issued or to be issued, payable from the assessments levied in such improvement districts, and authorizing and directing the collection of the assessments in such improvement districts sufficient to pay the principal and interest of said warrants, validating and confirming all acts and proceedings of the board of directors of any irrigation district in connection with the acquisition and creation of improvement districts within irrigation districts, and the acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance and repair of improvements therein, and declaring this act to be an urgency measure.*

(Approved January 29, 1931, Stats. 1931, p. 46.)

**All Acts, Proceedings and Warrants Validated; Errors and Informalities to Be Disregarded.**

SECTION 1. When in any irrigation district organized and existing under the laws of the State of California proceedings have been taken for the purpose of organizing any improvement district under the provisions of an act entitled: "An act to provide for the organization and creation of improvement districts within irrigation districts organized under the California irrigation district act; to provide for the acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance and repair of improvements therein, and for the levy of assessments on the lands of such improvement districts," approved May 25, 1927, as amended, all acts and proceedings of the board of directors of such irrigation district conducting the proceedings for the formation of such district and all other acts and proceedings leading up to and including the formation of such district, including the petition for such formation in the form and manner in which such petition was heretofore approved by such board of directors, and all other acts and proceedings relative to the levy of any assessment in such district and all warrants heretofore issued, or to be issued pursuant to such acts and proceedings in any such district heretofore organized are hereby legalized, confirmed and validated, and the power of the board of directors of such irrigation district conducting such proceedings in any such improvement district to make and levy and collect said assessment, and to issue warrants payable therefrom, is hereby ratified, confirmed and approved; and said warrants are hereby declared to be and shall be in the form and manner in which the same have heretofore been issued, or are to be issued, if not now outstanding, the legal and valid obligations of and against such improvement district, payable from the proceeds of the assessment levied or to be levied therein; and all other acts and proceedings heretofore taken under the provisions of said irrigation district improvement act, or purporting to be taken under said act, are hereby legalized, confirmed and validated. No error or informality in any such proceedings heretofore taken under said irrigation district improvement act shall in anywise invalidate the formation of any such improvement district, the levy of any assessment therein or the issuance of any warrants payable from such assessment or any other act or proceeding relative thereto, from and after the effective date of this act, all such proceedings and acts being hereby ratified, confirmed, approved and validated.

### Powers and Duties of Board and Officers; Provisions for Payment of Principal and Interest of Warrants.

SEC. 2. For the purpose of paying the interest on any warrants issued by any irrigation district under the provisions of said irrigation district improvement act as the same becomes due, and the principal thereof, the assessors, treasurers, collectors, boards of directors and other officers of the respective irrigation districts organized under the laws of this state in which such improvement district shall have been organized or attempted to have been organized under said irrigation district improvement act, shall have the same powers and perform the same duties as are provided by said act for the assessment, levy and collection of the special assessments and the payment of the principal and interest of the warrants provided to be made and issued under the provisions of said act, and it shall be and hereby is made the duty of the board of directors of any irrigation district in which such improvement district shall have heretofore been organized or attempted to have been organized to levy and collect the special assessment heretofore made or to be made in such improvement district clearly sufficient to pay the principal and interest of the warrants issued or to be issued on account of such proceedings, and said boards of directors are hereby vested with power and jurisdiction to do all and singular the things herein and in said irrigation district improvement act required to be done for the purpose of providing funds sufficient to pay the principal and interest of said warrants.[1]

## 4. CONSOLIDATION OF DISTRICTS

*An act to provide for the consolidation of districts organized or existing under the California irrigation district act.*

(Approved May 31, 1921, Stats. 1921, p. 1018; amended Stats. 1925, p. 802.)

### Districts May Be Consolidated.

SECTION 1. Two or more districts organized or existing under the California irrigation district act may be consolidated as in this act provided and when so consolidated, the consolidated district shall possess all of the powers and be governed by and subject to all of the provisions of the California irrigation district act, except as in this act otherwise provided, as though originally organized under said act.

### Petition.

SEC. 2. When in the judgment of the board of directors of an irrigation district it is for the best interest of such district that it be consolidated with one or more other districts organized or existing under said California irrigation district act or when there is presented to said board a petition signed by signers equal in numbers to and possessing the qualifications required by said California irrigation district act for a petition for the organization of a district, said board must pass a resolution reciting such facts and declaring the advisability of such consolidation and its willingness to consolidate and forward a copy thereof to the state engineer.

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[1] Sec. 3 of the act reads as follows:

"SEC. 3. This act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety within the meaning of section 1 of article four of the constitution of the State of Caliornia, and shall become effective immediately. The following is a statement of facts constituting such urgency:

Many improvement districts within irrigation districts in the State of California are without funds with which to provide for the acqusition, construction, operation, maintenance and repair of improvements therein for the irrigation and drainage of lands therein. In many such improvement districts there are large acreages of land upon which many people make their homes and which with irrigation will provide large quantities of agricultural products but without irrigation are arid and unproductive. The acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance and repair of improvements provided for in said irrigation district improvement act are needed immediately for the irrigation season of 1931 and, unless the same are provided for immediately, water for irrigation purposes can not be furnished to said lands during the irrigation season of 1931 and such lands will be without water and therefore be rendered unproductive and valueless, necessitating the abandonment of homes. In many such districts, unless the contemplated improvements for the drainage of lands therein are consummated before the irrigation season of 1931, many thousands of acres of land will become alkalied, water-logged and swamped and rendered permanently unfit for agricultural purposes because of the rising and high underground water-table therein, as well as rendered dangerous to the public health by reason of the marshy and swamped lands created, which will be a breeding place for mosquitos and malarious insects. Many such improvement districts have been created within irrigation districts for the purpose of rectifying the above conditions which now exist, but, by reason of minor defects in the proceedings for the formation of such districts and other minor irregularities not substantially affecting the rights of property owners within such districts, such districts are unable to proceed with the improvements and are unable to issue or negotiate warrants for the payment thereof, and it is essential that such improvements be made immediately without awaiting the delay of ninety days after the adjournment of this Legislature."

### Investigation by State Engineer.

SEC. 3. Upon the receipt of the certified copy of such resolution adopted by two or more of such districts the state engineer shall forthwith make or cause to be made such investigation as he may deem necessary.

### Report by State Engineer; Recommendation; Report Favorable.

SEC. 4. Upon the completion of such examination but not more than ninety days after the receipt by him of a copy of the resolution from the board last adopting the same, the state engineer shall submit to the board of directors of each of said districts his report thereon.

In case said state engineer shall consider the elimination of a portion of the lands included in any of the original districts advisable, he shall recommend the same in his said report, stating his reasons therefor. He shall also set out the boundaries of the consolidated district recommended and the divisions into which it is to be divided, the same being five in number.

If any of said lands so eliminated have never received water from the original district in which it was included, the owners thereof shall be entitled to the return of all assessments theretofore paid upon same. If any of said lands have theretofore received water, the said state engineer shall recommend in his said report the portion, if any, of said assessments to the return of which the respective owners are equitably entitled. (Stats. 1925, p. 802.)

### Election.

SEC. 5. Within ten days after receiving said report, if the state engineer deems such consolidation desirable, the board of directors of each of said districts must make an order calling a special election at which shall be submitted to the electors of such district possessing the qualifications prescribed by the California irrigation district act the question whether or not said consolidation shall be effected, which said election shall be conducted and the returns canvassed so far as practicable in accordance with the requirements for the general irrigation district election provided for in said act. Notice of such election shall be given for the time and in the manner provided for notice of special elections for the issuance of bonds in said California irrigation district act. The ballots shall contain the words "Consolidation—Yes" and "Consolidation—No," or words equivalent thereto, and if a majority of the votes cast in each district are "Consolidation—Yes," then such districts shall be consolidated.

At such election there shall also be elected the directors and other officers of the consolidated district who shall be nominated and voted for as provided for in the general election of an irrigation district. (Stats. 1925, p. 802.)

### Report of State Engineer Unfavorable; Action by Board.

SEC. 6. After receiving said report, if the said engineer deems such consolidation not desirable, or if no report is received from said engineer within ninety (90) days after the submission to him of said copy of said resolution from the board last adopting the same, said boards of directors, if they each shall determine and declare by resolution that the proposed consolidation is desirable, shall each make an order calling a special election in the same manner as provided in section 5 hereof, which said election shall be conducted in the same manner and upon the same notice as provided therein.

### Offices.

Sec. 7. In the original resolution of consolidation the boards of directors of the several districts shall specify the offices agreed upon for the consolidated district and upon the voters of said districts consolidating said districts as herein provided, the directors and other officers then elected shall thereupon become the officers of such consolidated district and shall qualify and organize in the manner provided for a newly organized district.

### Apportionment of Indebtedness; State Engineer to Recommend.

Sec. 8. The report of the said engineer shall recommend the apportionment to the lands of the respective districts any outstanding indebtedness as he deems equitable, and the board of directors of the consolidated district, if such consolidation be made, shall within sixty (60) days after such consolidation act upon such recommendation and shall apportion to the lands of the said consolidated district any outstanding indebtedness as it deems equitable.

### Name and Powers of District.

Sec. 9. In the original resolution of consolidation the said boards of directors of the several districts shall specify the name agreed upon for the said consolidated district, and if such consolidation is adopted at such election, then said consolidation shall be effective and such consolidated district, under the said name, shall succeed to all of the rights, privileges and properties of all of the districts participating in such consolidation and shall be subject to all of the indebtedness, bonded and otherwise, thereof, as so respectively apportioned, and all future assessments necessary shall be levied in accordance with such apportionment.

Within ten days after said consolidation is made, the board of directors of said consolidated district shall make an order declaring such consolidation effective and setting out the date that same became effective and the boundaries of said consolidated district. A copy of said order, duly certified by the president and secretary thereof, shall be forthwith filed for record in the office of the county recorder of each county in which any lands of said district are situate.

### Sale of Bonds.

Sec. 10. Any bonds of any irrigation district, or districts, participating in such consolidation pursuant to the provisions of this act, which have been authorized by the electors of such district, or districts, prior to such consolidation, but which have not been issued, may, by order of the board of directors of the consolidated district, be sold or disposed of in the manner provided in sections 32 and 32a, respectively, of the California irrigation district act, and the proceeds thereof applied to the purpose for which such bonds were authorized. (Stats. 1925, p. 802.)

## 5. GENERAL VALIDATING ACTS

*An act confirming and validating the formation or organization and existence of irrigation districts.*

(Approved April 10, 1929.)

### All Proceedings for Organization of Districts Validated.

Section 1. In all cases where the board of supervisors of any county in this state has purported to form or organize an irrigation district under any law or laws of this state, and such purported formation or organization has been completed for a period of one year previous to the taking effect of this act, and such irrigation district has acted or functioned as a district for a period of one year previous to the taking effect of this act, all acts and proceedings taken for the purpose of forming or organizing such district are hereby legalized, validated and declared to be sufficient, and such irrigation district is hereby declared to be duly formed and organized under its appropriate name as of the time of its purported formation, with boundaries as shown or indicated in the order of said board of supervisors, and shall have all the rights and privileges and be subject to all the duties and obligations of a duly formed or organized irrigation district. (Stats. 1929, p. 159.)

*An act establishing and validating the organization and existence of irrigation districts.*

(Approved April 21, 1931, Stats. 1931, p. 248.)

### All Proceedings, Including Inclusion and Exclusion, Validated.

Section 1. In case the board of supervisors of any county in this state has heretofore declared any territory to be organized as an irrigation district under the California irrigation district act and has designated a name for such district and has declared certain persons elected as the officers thereof, and the persons declared elected as directors thereof have organized as a board and said board has acted as the board of directors of such district for at least one year before this act takes effect, all acts and proceedings of such board of supervisors and of all public officers in or in connection with the organization of such district are hereby validated, confirmed and declared sufficient and such district is hereby recognized and established as an irrigation district with the name designated by said board of supervisors and with the boundaries established by said board of supervisors or with such modifications of said boundaries as may have been made by order of the board of directors of such district on petition or petitions for the inclusion of land therein or the exclusion of land therefrom.

## 6. DISSOLUTION OF DISTRICTS

### VOLUNTARY DISSOLUTION

*An act to provide for the dissolution of irrigation districts, the ascertainment and discharge of their indebtedness, and the distribution of their property.*

(Approved February 10, 1903, Stats. 1903, p. 3. Amended 1909, p. 139; 1911, Ex. Sess., p. 118; 1913, p. 39; 1915, p. 859.)

**District May Dissolve in Manner Provided; Exception.**

SECTION 1. Any irrigation district organized under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization and government of irrigation districts, and to provide for the acquisition of water and other property, and for the distribution of water thereby for irrigation purposes," approved March 7, 1887, and all act supplementary thereto or amendatory thereof, including an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization and government of irrigation districts, and to provide for the acquisition or construction thereby of works for the irrigation of lands embraced within such districts, and also, to provide for the distribution of water for irrigation purposes," approved March 31, 1897, may be dissolved in the manner hereinafter provided; provided, that in case a contract authorized by law has been made between the district and the United States for the construction, operation and maintenance of the necessary works for the delivery of water or for a water supply, no such district shall be dissolved and no proceedings entertained by any court or otherwise looking to the dissolution of such district, until the written assent of the secretary of the interior be given to such dissolution. (Stats. 1915, p. 859.)

**Petition; Contents.**

SEC. 2. A majority in number of the holders of title, or evidence of title, to real property in any irrigation district, and a majority in value of said property according to the equalized assessment roll of said district for the year last preceding upon which any assessment has been made, may propose the dissolution of said district by a petition signed by such majority, which petition shall set forth the amount of the outstanding bonds, coupons, and other indebtedness, if such there be, together with a general description of the same, and the holders, so far as known, showing the amount of each description of indebtedness and the ownership, so far as known, of the same. Also the estimated cost of the dissolution of said district. Said petition shall also state the assets of said district, including irrigation system, if any, dams, reservoirs, canals, franchises, water rights, a detailed statement of all the lands sold to the district for assessments, and the amount of the assessments on each parcel of land sold, also all assessments unpaid, and the amount upon each lot or tract of land, and all other assets of the district; and in case any proposition has been made by the holders of said indebtedness to settle the same, said proposition, together with any plan proposed to carry the same into execution, shall be included in said petition.

*Escondido Mut. Water Co.* vs. *Escondido*, 169 Cal. 772, 147 Pac. 1172;
*Byington* vs. *Sacramento, etc., V. Co.*, 170 Cal. 124, 145 Pac. 791;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100.

**Petition; Contents; Alternative Procedure.**

SEC. 2½. In case an irrigation district has no indebtedness not barred by the statute of limitations and no assets, and has ceased to be a going concern and has no irrigation system by which it conveys water for irrigation or domestic purposes to any of the residents of such district, the petition for dissolution mentioned in section 2 of said act shall contain statements showing such facts and also that it is the desire of the signers of such petition to have said district dissolved, and such petition need not contain any other statement or allegation, and such petition need only be signed by two-thirds of the qualified electors residing in such district, and by the holders of title or evidence of title representing at least fifty per cent of the acreage within said district and not less than fifty per cent in value of all lands lying within the exterior boundaries of said district, the value of said lands to be determined by the last equalized assessment roll of said district, and such petition so signed and containing such statements and allegations shall be sufficient. In such case the plan of dissolution referred to in section 3 of said act need only show the facts that there is no district indebtedness not barred by the statute of limitations and that the district has disposed of all of its assets; provided, that the petition shall further recite the fact that an application will be made to the superior court for a decree of dissolution of said district under the provisions of said act. And in the case mentioned in this section, it shall not be necessary to obtain the assent of any holder of any evidence of indebtedness of said district barred by any statute of limitations of this state before the election, provided for in said section 3, shall be called. (Added Stats. 1911, Ex. Sess., p. 118.)

**Petition; Contents; Further Alternative Procedure; Special Election; Call; Notice.**

SEC. 2a. In case an irrigation district has no indebtedness not barred by the statute of limitations and no assets and has ceased to be a going concern and has no irrigation system by which it conveys water for irrigation or domestic purposes to any of the residents of such district, the petition for dissolution mentioned in section 2 of said act shall contain statements showing such facts and also that it is the desire of the signers of such petition to have said district dissolved, and such petition need not contain any other statement or allegation, and such petition need only be signed by two-thirds of the qualified electors residing in such district, and by the holders of title or evidence of title representing at least fifty per cent of the acreage within said district and not less than fifty per cent in value of all lands lying within the exterior boundaries of said district, the value of said lands to be determined by the last equalized assessment roll of said district, and such petition so signed and containing such statements and allegations shall be sufficient.[1] In such case the plan of dissolution referred to in section 3 of said act may be entirely omitted and it shall not be necessary for the petitioners or persons signing such petition, or for the board of directors of such district to propose any plan for the dissolution of such district or any plan for the liquidation of its indebtedness or the distribution of its assets; provided, that the petition shall further recite the fact that an application will be made to the superior court of the State of California in and for the county in which the office of the board of directors of such district is required to be kept, for a decree of dissolution of said district under the provisions of said act. And in the case mentioned in this section, it shall not be necessary to obtain the assent of any holder of any indebtedness or evidence of indebtedness of said district barred by any statute of limitations of this state before the election provided for in said section 3, shall be called. Upon the filing of said petition with the board of directors of said district said board shall call a special election at which shall be submitted to the electors of such district the question whether or not said district shall be dissolved. Notice of such election must be given by posting notices in three public places in each election precinct in said district for at least twenty days and also by publication of such notice in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the board of directors is required to be kept, once a week for at least three successive weeks before such election. Such notices must specify the time of holding the election, and the fact that it is proposed to dissolve the district. Said election must be held and the result thereof determined and declared in all respects as nearly as practicable in conformity with provisions of law governing the election of officers in irrigation districts. At such election the ballot shall contain the words ''Dissolution of the district—Yes'' or ''Dissolution of the district—No,'' or words equivalent thereto. It shall not be necessary in winding up the affairs of any district organized under the laws of this state to pay all or any portion of any debt or obligation of such district, for the enforcement of which debt or obligation a suit is barred by the laws of this state, nor to pay any bond, coupon, warrant or other indebtedness, claim or demand which shall be barred by the laws of this state prior to the filing of the petition for dissolution with the board of directors of such district. (Stats. 1913, p. 39.)

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[1] The first sentence of Sec. 2a is a repetition of the first sentence of Sec. 2½.

### Special Election; Notice; Ballot.

SEC. 3. Upon the filing of said petition with the board of directors of said district said board shall call a special election, at which shall be submitted to the electors of such district the question whether or not said district shall be dissolved, its indebtedness liquidated, and its assets distributed in accordance with the plan so proposed, or in case no plan has been proposed, then in accordance with a plan which shall be proposed by said board of directors in the notice of the election, but no such election shall be called until the assent of all the known holders of valid indebtedness against the district shall be obtained or provision shall be made in said plan for the payment of such nonassenting holders. Notice of such election must be given by posting notices in three public places in each election precinct in said district for at least twenty days, and also by publication of such notice in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the board of directors is required to be kept, once a week for at least three successive weeks before such election. Such notices must specify the time of holding the election, the fact that it is proposed to dissolve the district, and a brief summary of the plan proposed for liquidating its indebtedness and disposing of its assets. Said election shall be held and the result thereof determined and declared in all respects as nearly as practicable in conformity with the provisions governing the election of officers in irrigation districts. At such election the ballot shall contain the words "Dissolution of the district—Yes," or "Dissolution of the district—No," or words equivalent thereto.

### Action in Superior Court by Board of Directors.

SEC. 4. In case upon such canvass it is found and declared by said board of directors that two-thirds of the votes cast at such election shall be cast in favor of "Dissolution of the district—Yes," then the said board of directors shall file a petition in the superior court of the county wherein is located the office of such board to determine the validity of the proceedings had and of the proposed plan for the dissolution of said district. Such action shall be in the nature of a proceeding in rem, and jurisdiction of all parties interested may be had by publication of a notice of the pendency of the proceeding for at least once a week for three weeks in some paper of general circulation published in the county where the action is pending; provided, that if the property of the district is situate in more than one county then the publication shall be made in one paper in each county wherein the same is situate, such paper or papers to be designated by the court having jurisdiction of the proceeding; jurisdiction shall be complete in thirty days after the completion of such notice in the manner herein provided. Anyone interested may at any time before the expiration of said thirty days appear and contest the validity of the proceedings already had and of the plan proposed for the dissolution of said district, or any portion thereof, including the validity of any portion of the indebtedness set out in said petition, and the court may determine the validity of any sales for assessments, and may determine the amount of any assessment or assessments due upon the various parcels and lots of real estate within said district, and may determine the amount of any assessment or assessments theretofore paid upon the various parcels and lots of real estate therein, and may in said proceeding adjust and determine the rights and liabilities of all parties. Such action shall be speedily tried and judgment rendered. Either party shall have the right to appeal at any time within thirty days after the entering of such judgment, and the appeal must be heard and determined within three months after the taking of such appeal.

### Petition; Hearing; Irregularities to Be Disregarded; Costs.

SEC. 5. Said petition to the superior court shall set forth the facts required to be set forth in the petition to the board of directors and all the proceedings therein, and at the hearing the court shall hear and determine the regularity, legality, and correctness of all proceedings, and in doing so shall disregard any error, irregularity, or omission which does not affect the substantial rights of the parties. The rules of pleading and practice in the Code of Civil Procedure not inconsistent with the provisions of this act are made applicable to the proceeding herein provided. The cost of any contest may be allowed and proportioned between the parties or taxed to the losing party in the discretion of the court, and no contest of any matter or thing herein provided for shall be made other than in the time and manner herein specified.

### Assessment Payer May Bring Action.

SEC. 6. If no such proceeding shall have been filed by the board of directors within thirty days after the canvass of said vote, then any district assessment payer may bring an action in the superior court of the county wherein the office of the board of directors is located. The board of directors shall be made parties defendant and notice shall be served on the members of the board personally, if they can be found in the state, if not, then service by publication as provided in section 4, shall be sufficient. Proceedings shall be had in the same manner and with the same effect as if brought by the board of directors.

### Corporation May Be Organized to Take Over Property.

SEC. 7. A corporation may be organized under general laws for the purpose of acquiring the assets of said district, including the irrigation system, if any, dams, reservoirs, canals, franchises and water rights, which corporation shall have all the powers, rights and franchises of corporate bodies organized under general laws, and in addition shall have such further powers as may be necessary to possess and carry on said irrigation system and exercise such franchise and water rights.

### Discharge of Debts and Distribution of Assets.

SEC. 8. The court in its decree shall have power to make the orders necessary to carry out said proposition for the discharge of the indebtedness and distribution of the property of said district, including the right to apportion any indebtedness found due, and to declare said portions liens upon the various parcels and lots of land within the district, and may decree a sale of its assets in such manner as may effectuate said proposition and as the said court may judge best, either in one lot or in such parcels as may be provided, and may provide for conveyance of said irrigation system, including dams, reservoirs, canals, franchises and water rights, and also of any other assets of the district, including lands sold thereto and the assessments due it.

### Assessment Liens; Redemption.

SEC. 9. The amounts of any assessment or assessments found due upon the various parcels and lots of real estate within said district, and the amounts for which sales have been made, which sales have been determined to be valid by said court, together with legal interest from the date of said sales and from the time when said assessments become delinquent, shall be liens respectively on the lots and parcels affected thereby, and the purchaser or purchasers at said sale may foreclose the same by action in the superior court, and shall in said action join all lots, assessments, and sales which may have been purchased by him and which remain unredeemed. A redemption may be made at any time by payment of the amount due to the clerk of the court for the use of the district if before sale, and for the use of the purchaser if after sale, and the clerk shall thereupon enter a minute of said payment, which payment shall be in the discharge of said lien. Redemption from the lien created for any portion of the indebtedness can be had in this manner.

### Balance of Funds Apportioned; Entry of Decree.

SEC. 10. Whenever all the property of such irrigation district shall have been disposed of, and all the indebtedness and obligations thereof, if any there be, shall have been discharged, the balance of the money of said district shall be distributed to the assessment payers in said district upon the last assessment roll in the proportion in which each has contributed to the total amount of said assessment, and the court shall enter a final decree declaring said district to be dissolved.

### Debts Barred Need Not Be Included in Petition.

SEC. 10½. In the petition mentioned in section 2 of this act it shall not be necessary to include in the schedule of indebtedness any bond, coupon, warrant or other indebtedness, claim or demand which shall have been barred by the laws of this state prior to the filing of said petition with the board of directors of said irrigation district, nor shall it be necessary in winding up the affairs of any district organized under the laws of this state to pay all or any portion of a debt or obligation of such district, for the enforcement of which debt or obligation a suit is barred by the laws of this state. (Added, Stats. 1909, p. 139.)

SEC. 11. This act shall take effect immediately.

## INVOLUNTARY DISSOLUTION

*An act declaring the conditions upon which an irrigation district may be dissolved, prescribing the procedure therefor, and the winding up of the affairs of the district when dissolved.*

(Approved May 19, 1919, Stats. 1919, p. 751; amended, Stats. 1925, p. 220.)

### Certain Districts May Be Dissolved by Action in Superior Court.

SECTION 1. Any irrigation district organized under any of the laws of the State of California, providing for the organization of irrigation districts, which

(a) Has been organized more than three years and has failed and neglected to secure an adequate water supply and which does not have a reasonable prospect of securing an adequate water supply for the lands of the district without prohibitive cost, and has failed and neglected to obtain the approval of the state water commission of the water supply of said district and has failed and neglected to obtain the approval of the state engineer of the plans of said district, and has failed and leglected to construct or acquire a system of works or the financing thereof, and has failed and neglected to obtain the approval of the irrigation district bond commission; or

(b) Has been organized for more than ten years and for more than five years after the construction or acquisition of a system of works has failed and neglected to maintain such works, or for five years or more after such works have been constructed or acquired has failed and neglected to supply or make available, water for the irrigation of more than ten per cent of the lands of the district;

May be dissolved and annulled by the superior court of the county in which said district is located by proceedings in an action brought by the attorney general in the name of the people of the State of California, upon his own information. Before such an action can be commenced in the courts the attorney general shall publish for two consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in the county in which the greater portion of the district is located, a notice to all parties in interest that it is his intention to begin such action for the dissolution of said district. The rules of pleading and practice in the Code of Civil Procedure not inconsistent with the provisions of this act are made applicable to the proceedings herein provided. (Stats. 1925, p. 220.)

*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100;
*People* vs. *Honey Lake Valley Irr. Dist.*, 77 Cal. App. 367, 246 Pac. 819.

### State Engineer; Investigation by; Powers; Report to Court.

SEC. 2. Before the trial of the case the court may direct the state engineer to investigate all the affairs of said district; the water supply that may be obtained without prohibitive cost; the feasibility and practicability of irrigating all or a reasonable amount of the lands of said district; and all other matters which the court may direct, or the state engineer may deem pertinent as affecting the possible success or failure of the district as an irrigation enterprise and which may be necessary to enable the court to determine the question of dissolution.

For the purpose of making such investigation, the state engineer shall have access to all the records of the district, and all officers and employees and other persons in any manner connected with or employed by said district shall furnish such information as he may require which has already been obtained or determined, including maps, plans, estimates, field notes, and other data.

The state engineer shall report his findings and conclusions to the superior court as soon as practicable, but within ninety days unless a longer time be granted him by the court, but in no case to extend beyond the period of one hundred eighty days in all.

### Dissolution and Disposition of Property.

SEC. 3. Upon final judgment of dissolution in such action, the district in question shall be deemed dissolved and annulled. The court shall determine the amount of indebtedness outstanding against said district, including the costs of the court action herein provided for, and thereafter the appropriate county officers shall act as ex officio officers of the district; the records and papers of every kind belonging to the district shall be turned oved to the proper county officers. The county treasurer shall perform the duties of the district treasurer; the county tax collector shall perform the duties of the district tax collector; the county assessor shall perform the duties of the district assessor; the county clerk shall perform the duties of the secretary of the board of directors; the board of supervisors shall perform the duties of the board of directors; they shall proceed to levy and collect such additional taxes as may be necessary upon the lands embraced within such district in the same manner and with the same procedure for nonpayment that county taxes are levied and collected for the purpose of paying such outstanding indebtedness not provided for by previous assessments. All property of every kind belonging to the district, including lands sold to the district for taxes, shall be sold as the court may direct and the proceeds together with all money on hand shall be used to pay off the indebtedness. All funds remaining after all outstanding indebtedness has been paid shall be apportioned and be paid to the assessment payers according to the last assessment roll.

*People* vs. *Honey Lake Valley Irr. Dist.*, 77 Cal. App. 367, 246 Pac. 819.

### Outstanding Indebtedness No Bar to Dissolution.

Sec. 4. The outstanding indebtedness, whether of bonds, warrants, or otherwise, of any irrigation district shall not operate as a bar to dissolution by the superior court when provision is made for the payment of such indebtedness in the manner provided in section 3 of this act.

### Alternative Method.

Sec. 5. This act is designed to provide an alternative method for the dissolution of irrigation districts and shall not be deemed to repeal any other statute or statutes.

As to *quo warranto* proceedings under Sec. 803 of the Code of Civil Procedure, see

*People* vs. *Selma Irr. Dist.* 98 Cal. 206, 32 Pac. 1047;
*People* vs. *Jefferds*, 126 Cal. 296, 58 Pac. 704;
*People* vs. *Perris Irr. Dist.*, 132 Cal. 289, 64 Pac. 773;
*Byington* vs. *Sacramento V. etc., Co.*, 170 Cal. 124, 148 Pac. 791.

## 7. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH DISTRICTS IN OTHER STATES

*An act to provide for cooperation in acquisition, construction and management of irrigation and drainage works between irrigation districts organized or existing under or by virtue of an act entitled "An act to provide for organization and government of irrigation districts and to provide for the acquisition thereby of works for the irrigation of the lands embraced within such districts, and also to provide for the distribution of water for irrigation purposes," approved March 31, 1897, and contiguous or adjoining districts in or organized under the laws of other states.*

(Approved May 23, 1917, Stats. 1917, p. 905.)

### Cooperation With Districts in Adjoining States.

Section 1. It shall be lawful for irrigation districts organized or existing under or by virtue of an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization and government of irrigation districts, and to provide for the acquisition or construction thereof of works for the irrigation of the lands embraced within such districts, and also to provide for the distribution of water for irrigation purposes," approved March 31, 1897, to enter into agreements with irrigation districts in adjoining states for the joint construction, acquisition, management and control of diverting, impounding or distributing works for irrigation or draining the lands within the boundaries of their respective districts.

### Contracts.

Sec. 2. Such agreements may be evidenced by written contracts executed on behalf of their respective boards of directors or trustees, or by resolutions entered upon their respective minutes. Such contracts or certified copies thereof and certified copies of such resolutions shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder in each county in which is situated any of the lands of said districts or any of the reservoir sites or other real property owned by said districts or acquired under the provisions of this act.

### Property Interests.

Sec. 3. Such agreements may provide for joint or several ownership or ownership in common of the property, necessary or convenient for the purposes of this act and may provide for the terms and conditions under which or the respective proportions in which such property shall be held. Any rights or disputes arising out of or from said agreements may be tried before and enforced by any court of competent jurisdiction in the state.

### Meetings.

Sec. 4. Any meeting of the board of directors of any such district, held in conjunction with the board of directors of the cooperating district, in such district in the adjoining state, if duly and regularly called as required by law or if regularly adjourned to, shall be as lawful and valid as if held at the office of the board of directors of such district in this state.

### Diversion of Water in One State to Be Used in Another.

Sec. 5. It shall be lawful, for the purposes of such cooperative action to divert water from this state for impounding in the adjoining state or otherwise for distribution to the lands of the cooperating districts regardless of the state in which such lands are situated or to divert water from such adjoining state for impounding or otherwise for distribution to the lands of such cooperating districts in this or the adjoining state.

### Ownership of Property Outside State.

Sec. 6. So far as may be necessary for fully carrying out the purposes of this act such cooperating district in the adjoining state may hold title to property, in this state and such cooperating district in this state may hold title to property in the adjoining state.

## 8. COOPERATION WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, OR MAINTENANCE OF WORKS

*An act to authorize irrigation districts to cooperate and contract with the United States under the provisions of the federal reclamation laws for a water supply, or the construction, operation or maintenance of works, including drainage works, or for the assumption by the district of indebtedness to the United States on account of district lands; and to provide the manner and method of payments to the United States under such contract, and for the apportionment of assessments, and levy thereof, upon the lands of the district to secure revenue for such payments, and to provide for the judicial review and determination of the validity of the proceedings in connection with such contract.*

(Approved May 5, 1917, Stats. 1917, p. 243.)

### Contracts With United States—Irrigation or Drainage.

SECTION 1. In addition to the powers with which irrigation districts have been vested under the act approved March 31, 1897, and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto and acts of or to which said act is amendatory or supplementary, irrigation districts heretofore or hereafter organized under said acts shall have the following powers: To cooperate and contract with the United States under the federal reclamation act of June 17, 1902, and all acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, or any other act of congress heretofore or hereafter enacted authorizing or permitting such cooperation, for purposes of construction of works, whether for irrigation or drainage, or both, or for the acquisition, purchase, extension, operation or maintenance of constructed works, or for a water supply, or for the assumption as principal or guarantor of indebtedness to the United States on account of district lands.

### General Powers of District.

SEC. 2. The board of directors shall generally perform all such acts as shall be necessary to carry out the enlarged powers in this act enumerated. Said board may enter into any obligation or contract with the United States for the aforesaid purposes, and may provide therein for the delivery and distribution of water for the lands of such district under the aforesaid acts of congress and the rules and regulations established thereunder. The contract may provide for the conveyance to the United States as partial consideration for the privileges obtained by the district under said contract, of water rights or other property of the district; and in case contract has been or may hereafter be made with the United States as herein provided, bonds of the district may be transferred to, or deposited with the United States, if so provided by said contract and authorized as hereinafter set forth, at not less than ninety-five per cent of their par value, to the amount to be paid by the district to United States or any part thereof; the interest or principal, or both, on said bonds to be raised by assessment and levy as hereinafter prescribed, and to be regularly paid to the United States and applied as provided in said contract. Bonds transferred to or deposited with the United States may call for the payment of such interest not exceeding six per cent per annum, may be of such denomination, and may call for the repayment of the principal at such times as may be agreed upon between the board and the secretary of the interior. The contract with the United States may likewise call for the payment of the amount or amounts to be paid by the district to the United States or any part thereof at such times and in such installments and with such interest charges not exceeding the aforesaid rate as may be agreed upon, and for assessment and levy therefor as hereinafter provided. Moreover the board may accept on behalf of the district, appointment of the district as fiscal agent of the United States, or authorization of the district by the United States to make collection of moneys for or on behalf of the United States in connection with any federal reclamation project whereupon the district shall be authorized so to act and to assume the duties and liabilities incident to such action, and the said board shall have full power to do any and all things required by the federal statutes now or hereafter enacted in connection therewith, and all things required by the rules and regulations now or that may hereafter be established by any department of the federal government in regard thereto. Districts cooperating with the United States may rent or lease water to private lands, entrymen, or municipalities in the neighborhood of the district, in pursuance of contract with the United States.

**Election.**

Sec. 3. Any proposal to enter into a contract with the United States for the repayment of construction moneys, the cost of a water supply or the acquisition of property, and to issue bonds, if any be proposed, shall be voted upon at an election wherein proceedings shall be had in so far as applicable in the manner provided in the case of the ordinary issuance of district bonds. Said proposal, with such plans and estimates of cost as have been made in connection therewith, shall be submitted to the state engineer for his examination and report, and the proceedings in that regard shall be in accord with section 30 of the act approved March 31, 1897, as amended, in so far as the same may be applicable. Notice of the election herein provided for shall contain in addition to the information required in the case of ordinary bond election a statement of the maximum amount of money to be payable to the United States for construction purposes, cost of water supply and acquisition of property, exclusive of penalties and interest, together with a general statement of the property, if any, to be conveyed by the district as hereinabove provided. The ballots at such election shall contain a brief statement of the general purpose of said contract and the amount of the obligation to be assumed, as aforesaid, with the words "Contract—Yes" and "Contract—No," or "Contract and bonds—Yes" and "Contract and bonds—No," as the case may be. The board of directors may submit any such contract or proposed contract and bond issue if any, to the superior court of the county wherein is located the office of said board to determine the validity thereof and the authority of the board to enter into such contract, and the authority for and validity of the issuance and deposit or transfer of said bonds; whereupon the same proceedings shall be had as in the ordinary case of the judicial determination of the validity of bonds and with like effect.

**Distribution of Water.**

SEC. 4. All water, the right to use of which is acquired by the district under any contract with the United States shall be distributed and apportioned by the district in accordance with the acts of congress applicable thereto, the rules and regulations of the secretary of the interior thereunder, and the provisions of said contract, and provision may be made in the contract between the district and the United States for the refusal of water service to any or all lands which may become delinquent in the payment of any assessment levied for the purpose of carrying out any contract between the district and the United States.

**Rights of Way.**

SEC. 5. Any rights of way or other property owned or acquired by the district may be conveyed by the board to the United States in so far as the same may be needed for the construction, operation and maintenance of works by the United States for the benefit of the district under any contract that may be entered into with the United States pursuant to this act.

**Assessments.**

SEC. 6. All payments due or to become due to the United States under any contract between the district and the United States, including such payments of interest and principal on bonds as may be required in connection with a deposit or transfer thereof to the United States, shall be paid, unless otherwise provided by contract, by revenue derived from annual assessments, apportioned as hereinafter prescribed, and levies thereof, upon such real property within the district as may be assessable for district purposes under the laws of the state, and such real property shall be and remain liable to be assessed and levied upon for such payments as herein provided. It shall be the duty of the board of directors annually to levy an assessment sufficient to raise the money necessary to meet all payments when due as provided in the contract. All money collected in pursuance of such contract by assessments and levies, or otherwise, shall be paid into the district treasury and held in a fund to be known as the "United States contract fund," to be used for payments due to the United States under any such contract. Public lands of the United States within any district shall be subject to assessment for all purposes of this act to the extent provided for by the act of congress approved August 11, 1916, entitled "An act to promote reclamation of arid lands," or any other law which may hereafter be enacted by congress in the same relation, upon full compliance therewith by the district. Nothing in this act contained shall be construed to relieve the district from obligation to pay as a district in case of default of any land, unless so provided by the said contract between the district and the United States.

**Assessments Made for Benefits.**

SEC. 7. The assessment required in any year to meet the payment due to the United States for all purposes under the contract as in this act provided may be apportioned in accordance with the benefits, and in the ascertainment of such benefits there shall be taken into account the provisions of the contract between the United States and the district, the federal laws applicable thereto, and the notices and regulations issued in pursuance of said laws, and in case such contract is for the assumption by the district as principal or guarantor of indebtedness to the United States theretofore existing on account of district lands, there shall be further taken into account the provisions of existing contracts carrying such indebtedness and the amounts of such liens as may be released in pursuance of the contract between the United States and the district.

### Change in District Boundaries.

SEC. 8. Where contract shall have been entered into between the United States and any irrigation district the district shall not be dissolved, nor shall the boundaries be changed, except upon written consent of the secretary of the interior filed with the official records of the district. If such consent be given and lands be excluded, the areas excluded shall be free from all liens and charges for payments to become due to the United States.

### Effect on Irrigation District Act.

SEC. 9. The provisions of the general irrigation district act, approved March 31, 1897, and acts amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto, shall be and remain in force as regards irrigation districts, in this act referred to except in so far as herein modified expressly or by necessary implication; and nothing in this act shall be so construed as to affect irrigation district operations not related to cooperation with the United States. However, the provisions of section 53 of said act, approved March 31, 1897, shall not apply in case of any contract between an irrigation district and the United States.

### Construction Contracts With Federal Government.

SEC. 10. In addition to the other powers enumerated in this act, in any case where the United States or any department thereof under United States authority, is about to construct or is authorized to construct works for the benefit of any such irrigation district and such district is obligated by contract or otherwise to repay the construction cost thereof in whole or in part to the United States or such department thereof, then such irrigation district may by resolution of its board of directors enter into contract with the United States or such department therefor for the construction of such works or may submit bids for construction thereof the same as any other person or corporation could submit bids for the construction of public works, and in the event such irrigation district shall become the successful bidder for such works or any part thereof the irrigation district is authorized to cause to be executed at the cost of the district a bond or bonds for the faithful performance of the work and to do any and all things required by the United States or such department thereof as would be required of any other successful bidder on such works, and such irrigation district shall upon the execution of such construction contract proceed with the work in the same manner and under the same laws, rules, and regulations as would apply to such irrigation district in the construction of any works which such district is authorized to construct and for the purpose of providing the necessary moneys to carry on such construction work the board of directors of such irrigation district is authorized to borrow money for a term not exceeding five years and at rates of interest to be fixed by the board of directors, not exceeding seven per centum per annum, and issue notes, warrants or other evidence of indebtedness therefor; provided, however, that the aggregate amount of such indebtedness shall at no time exceed one-half of the total construction cost as provided by the contract therefor; and provided, further, that any moneys received by such irrigation district from the United States or any department thereof under such contract shall first be applied to the retirement of such notes, warrants or other evidences of indebtedness. (Stats. 1929, p. 208.)

## 9. COOPERATION UNDER FEDERAL TWENTY-YEAR EXTENSION ACT

*An act authorizing and empowering irrigation and reclamation districts to enter into contracts with the United States reclamation service for the reclamation of lands within such districts under the provisions of the so-called "twenty year extension act."*

(Approved May 21, 1917, Stats. 1917, p. 781.)

### Contracts With Reclamation Service.

SECTION 1. The board of trustees, or directors of any irrigation or reclamation district now organized under the provisions of the laws of the State of California, or of any irrigation or reclamation district hereafter organized under the laws of the State of California, may, in their discretion, whenever it is determined by such board that it is for the best interests of such districts, enter into a contract with the proper officers of the United States Reclamation Service for the reclamation, either by drainage or irrigation of lands within the boundaries of such district, or by preventing high water from overflowing the same, under the provisions of an act of congress approved August 13, 1914, entitled "An act extending the period of payment under reclamation projects, and for other purposes," which act is commonly known as the twenty year extension act, and from and after the execution of such contract, the amount of indebtedness created thereby shall be and become a lien upon the lands to be benefited by such reclamation work.

### Payments.

SEC. 2. The board of trustees or directors of any irrigation or reclamation district above mentioned, shall provide by a resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting, or special meeting of such board called for the purpose, for the payments of the amounts to become due under the contract with the United States, according to the provisions of such contract, by assessment upon the lands, in such district, which are to be benefited by such work, such assessment to be collected by the tax collector of the county within which such lands are situated, the same as other taxes are collected, or by any other officer authorized by law to collect assessments within said district.

## 10. UNION OF DISTRICTS FOR PRODUCTION OF MATERIALS

*Political Code, Sec. 4041c*

**Cement Plants, Rock Quarries, Etc.**

Counties, cities and irrigation districts may jointly or severally purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire, or operate, manage and control rock quarries, rock plants, sand pits, cement plants, and other works or projects for the extraction, manufacture, or preparation of rock, sand, cement and other materials used by them in performing county, city, or district functions. (Section added, Stats. 1921, p. 191.)

## 11. ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS

*An act to promote the reclamation of arid land and to provide that certain land belonging to the State of California, within the boundaries of an irrigation district shall be subject to the assessments levied in said district.*

(Approved May 25, 1917, Stats. 1917, p. 936.)

**State Lands in District to Be Assessed.**

SECTION 1. Whenever there shall be included in any irrigation district organized and existing under the laws of this state, public lands belonging to the state subject to entry, or which have been entered, and for which no certificates of purchase have been issued, such lands are hereby made and declared to be subject to all of the provisions of law relating to the organization, government and regulation of irrigation districts to the same extent and in the same manner in which the lands of a like character held under private ownership are or may be subject to such law; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed as creating any obligation against the State of California to pay any of said charges, assessment or debt.

**Notice Served on Surveyor General.**

SEC. 2. All notices required by the act under which such district is organized shall, as soon as such notices are issued, be served upon the surveyor general of the State of California by mailing to his office a copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with postage prepaid.

**Assessment a Lien.**

SEC. 3. No public lands which were unentered at the time any assessment was levied against the same by such irrigation district shall be sold for such assessment, but such assessment shall be and continue a lien upon such land, and no patent shall issue therefor until the applicant shall present a certificate from the proper district officer showing that no unpaid assessments or charges are due and delinquent against said land.

## 12. CANCELLATION OF TAXES

### *Political Code, Sec. 3804a*

**Cancellation of Taxes Erroneously or Illegally Assessed.**

Any uncollected tax, or assessment, or portion thereof, or penalty or costs thereon, heretofore or hereafter assessed, charged or levied more than once, or erroneously or illegally, or upon that portion of an assessment found to be in excess of the actual cash value of the property assessed, by reason of a clerical error of the assessor, or upon an assessment for improvements on land when such improvements did not in fact exist at the time said tax or assessment became a lien, or upon an assessment of property which after the time said tax or assessment became a lien was acquired and owned by the state, or by any county, city and county, municipal corporation, school district or other political subdivision and which, because of such public ownership, is not subject to sale for delinquent taxes, may, upon satisfactory proof thereof, be canceled by the officer having custody of the record thereof upon the order of the board of supervisors, or other governing board with the written consent of the district attorney, city attorney or legal advisor of said board; provided, that no cancellation shall be made of such charges on property exempt from taxation in event of failure to comply with the provisions of law, if any, relative to the manner of claiming such exemptions.

If real property has been sold to the state or other subdivision for nonpayment of any tax levied as described in this section, and a certificate of sale or deed therefor has been issued to the state, or other subdivision and the state or other subdivision has not disposed of the property so sold, the order of the board shall also direct the officer having custody of the record thereof to cancel the certificate of sale or deed so issued.

In the city and county of San Francisco, the written consent of the city attorney shall have the same effect as the written consent of the district attorney. (Stats. 1925, p. 431.)

## 13. DRAINAGE BY IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

### *An act to provide for drainage by irrigation districts.*

(Approved March 18, 1907, Stats. 1907, p. 569.)

**District May Provide Drainage.**

Section 1. Any irrigation district heretofore organized or hereafter to be organized under the laws relating to such districts may provide for any and all drainage made necessary by the irrigation provided for by such laws; and the officers, agents and employees of such districts shall have the same powers, duties and liabilities respecting such drainage, and the construction, repair, maintenance, management and control thereof as they now have or may hereafter have respecting such irrigation, and all laws respecting such irrigation or such irrigation districts shall be so construed, applied and enforced as to apply to such drainage as well as such irrigation.

**Duty of Directors to Provide Drainage.**

Sec. 2. Whenever it appears necessary, or proper, or beneficial to the lands affected thereby, to drain such lands or any portion thereof on account of the irrigation which has been done, or which is intended to be done under such laws, whether for the purpose of more beneficially carrying on such irrigation, or to protect such districts from liability by reason of such irrigation, whether the irrigation works have already been constructed or not, it shall be the duty of the board of directors to provide for such drainage, and said board and its officers, agents and employees shall do all necessary and proper acts for the construction, repair, maintenance and management of drainage work for such purpose.

**Effective, When.**

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

## 14. DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRIC POWER

*An act to provide for the development of electrical power by irrigation districts.*

(Approved May 21, 1919, Stats. 1919, p. 778; amended 1921, pp. 829, 1083; 1923, p. 629.)

**Irrigation District May Develop Power.**

Section 1. Any irrigation district heretofore organized or hereafter to be organized under the laws relating to such district may provide for the construction, acquisition, operation, leasing and control of plants for the generation, distribution, sale and lease of electrical energy including sale to municipalities, corporations, public utility districts, or individuals, of electrical power so generated; and said district, subject, however, to the conditions in this section contained, may make special appropriations of water for power purposes, as required by law; provided, however, that any use of water for generating such electrical power or energy at any given time of the year, which use is in excess of the water appropriated and beneficially used for irrigation purposes by such district at said period of the year, shall be subject to all prior existing appropriations by any municipal corporation, who or which is proceeding in good faith in the expenditure of money and the construction of works designed to divert the water appropriated. The officers, agents and employees of such districts shall have the same powers, duties and liabilities respecting such power and the construction, acquisition, repair, maintenance, management and control thereof as they now have or may hereafter have respecting such irrigation or such irrigation districts. The Califorina irrigation district act shall be so construed, applied and enforced as to apply to such power as well as such irrigation, except that nothing in said act shall be so construed as to prevent the sale of power by any district for use outside of the boundaries of such district or to require the distribution of such power in accordance with any assessments levied by such district. (Stats. 1923, p. 629.)

**Powers of Board and Officers.**

Sec. 2. The board of directors of any irrigation district and its officers, agents and employees, shall do all necessary and proper acts for the construction, repair, maintenance, and management of such electrical power works for such purposes.

**Issuance of Bonds.**

Sec. 3. In case funds are not otherwise available an irrigation district may issue bonds for such purpose and all of the provisions of the California irigation district act, relating to the issuance of bonds for other purposes, and all other acts relative to bonds issued under the California irrigation district act, in so far as the same are applicable to said bonds shall apply. (Stats. 1921, p. 829.)

**Conflicting Acts Repealed.**

Sec 4. All acts or parts of acts in conflict with any of the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

## 15. RIGHTS OF WAY FOR POWER LINES

*An act granting to irrigation districts of the State of California the right to construct, operate and maintain electric light and power lines along or upon any road, street, alley, avenue or highway, or across any railway, canal, ditch or flume.*

(Approved May 25, 1923, Stats. 1923, p. 449.)

**Rights of Way for Irrigation District Electric Light and Power Lines.**

Section 1. That there is granted to every irrigation district of the State of California the right to construct, operate and maintain electric light and electric power lines along or upon any road, street, alley, avenue or highway, or across any railway, canal, ditch or flume which the route of such work intersects, crosses or runs along in such manner as to afford security for life and property, but the irrigation district shall restore the road, street, alley, avenue, highway, railway, canal, ditch or flume thus intersected to its former state of usefulness as near as may be; provided, however, that such irrigation district may not use any street, alley, avenue or highway within any city for such purpose, unless the right so to use the same is granted by a vote of the governing body of such city which shall have the right to impose reasonable conditions upon such use; provided, also, that such grant of authority shall not be necessary in any case where the street, alley, avenue or highway, or a portion thereof, proposed to be used for the purpose of constructing, operating or maintaining any such works, or any part thereof, is a necessary or convenient part of the route of such works and at the time construction thereof was commenced, or the plans adopted therefor, was located in territory not then within an organized city.

## CHAPTER IV

# CALIFORNIA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT ACT

**Preliminary Statement.**

The Water Storage District Act differs from the California Irrigation District Act principally in the method of voting and assessment and in having its procedure entirely before the state engineer instead of partly before the county board of supervisors. Voting is on a property qualification basis with one vote for each $100 of assessed land value. Assessments are based on benefits.

The present California Water Storage District Act was passed in 1921. It was drawn to meet the objections raised to the California Irrigation Act of 1915 which had been held to be unconstitutional.

There are at present two water storage districts. The Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District includes about 200,000 acres in Tulare Lake Basin. The district has adopted a plan providing for the acquirement of a reservoir within the lake area and improvements on the inlet channels. The costs of this plan have been assessed. The Water Storage District Act was used for this district as there are practically no residents within the district and a method of voting proportioned to ownership was desired.

The Buena Vista Water Storage District comprises about 80,000 acres on the lower Kern River near Buttonwillow. Buena Vista Lake is included within the district. The irrigable area is about 50,000 acres. This district has adopted its plan which has been assessed and bonds therefor voted. The Water Storage District Act was used for this district due to the fact that nearly all land is in one ownership.

The organization of a water storage district is initiated by a petition to the state engineer signed by either a majority in number and value of the included lands or by 500 owners owning at least 10 per cent of the value of the land. The county assessment roll is used as the basis of value. The petition is supported by a bond covering the costs of the procedure. To assist the state engineer in conducting hearings the act provides for two executive directors.

Following advertisement of the notice of hearing, hearings are held at which the sufficiency of the petition is first determined. Petitions of landowners for inclusion and exclusion are also heard. The state engineer may make investigations of the proposed project at the expense of the petitioners. Cost of such investigations are limited to not to exceed 25 cents per acre. Following the conclusion of such hearings as may be necessary on the petition, if the state engineer finds the proposed lands susceptible of irrigation from a common source, he defines the boundaries in a final order and calls an election on organization. The district is divided into any odd number of director's divisions, from 3 to 11. At the organization election, a majority vote in favor of organization is required to carry the election. Directors are voted upon at the same election.

Following organization the board of directors proceed with the preparation of the plans for the district. Costs of such work are secured by a flat rate per acre assessment which can not exceed a total of 50 cents per acre unless additional assessments of not to exceed 50 cents per acre are approved by the state engineer. The board prepares a report setting forth its plan in detail. This is filed with the state engineer. If the board of directors recommends that the plan should not be carried out, the state engneer may agree with their recommendation, which results in the abandonment of the plan, or he may send it to an election. If the election fails to carry, the district proceeds to dissolution. If the directors recommend that the plan should be adopted, the state engineer expresses his approval or disapproval of the plan and calls an election on its adoption. Under amendments passed in 1929 a majority of both votes and voters is now needed to carry the election on the plan under either procedure.

If the plan is adopted, the state engineer appoints a board of three commissioners of assessment who proceed to distribute the cost in accordance with the benefits. Their assessment is equalized by a board consisting of the two executive directors under the act and the president of the district board of directors. When equalized and filed, landowners have 30 days in which to pay their assessment in full. Following this period the assessment is subject to interest at 7 per cent and may be called for payment in whole or in part. In lieu of such calls directly on the assessment the district may vote bonds with which to meet the costs of the plan. If the district desires to have such bonds certified by the bond certification commission it proceeds as in the case of irrigation districts.

Storage districts have the same general powers as other similar forms of organization. Their works may include drainage, reclamation and power development. Revenues from power are credited to those assessed for power costs. Supplemental plans may be prepared for additional works.

All voting is based on one vote for each $100 of assessed land values. The county assessment roll is used to determine the number of votes to which each owner is entitled. The act provides for proxy voting and defines the basis of ownership for various conditions.

Lands may be included in or excluded from existing districts by a petition and hearing procedure in which the state engineer participates.

## CALIFORNIA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT ACT

*An act providing for the organization, operation, maintenance, government and dissolution of water storage districts, and the inclusion of lands therein, and the exclusion of lands therefrom, and for the acquisition, appropriation, diversion, storage, conservation and distribution of water for irrigation of lands in such districts, for the drainage and reclamation connected therewith, and for the generation, disposition and sale of hydroelectric energy developed incidental to such storage and distribution, and for the acquisition of lands or rights therein, and the acquisition, construction, operation and maintenance of works to carry into* *effect the provisions of this act, and conferring upon the state engineer certain additional duties and powers in connection with the carrying out of the purposes of said act, and providing for the appointment of directors to assist the state engineer in so doing, and defining the said duties and powers, and repealing the California irrigation act approved June 4, 1915, and all acts amendatory thereof.*[1]

(Approved June 3, 1921, Stats. 1921, p. 1727; amended Stats. 1923, p. 941; amended Stats. 1927, p. 1235; amended Stats. 1931, p. 750.)

## STATE ENGINEER

### State Engineer, Powers and Duties of.

SECTION 1. The state engineer shall have the powers and duties in this act conferred upon him, in addition to the other powers and duties possessed by or imposed upon him by law, and shall also possess and exercise such further powers and authority as may be necessary to enable him to fully perform the duties imposed upon him by this act, including the employment of such engineers, attorneys, superintendents, inspectors, and other assistants as he may deem necessary, and the fixing of their compensation, which together with the cost and expense of all work done in connection with the performance of such duties under this act shall be paid by the districts to be formed hereunder as hereinafter provided for payment of other expenses of the district.

Constitutionality of act established.

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure*, 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983;
*Wores* vs. *Imperial Irr. Dist.*, 193 Cal. 609, 227 Pac. 181;
*Nielsen* vs. *Richards*, 69 Cal. App. 533, 232 Pac. 480.

### Executive Directors, Appointment, Powers and Duties of.

SEC. 2. For the purpose of facilitating and expediting the performance of the duties in this act imposed upon the state engineer and to provide against interference with the performance of the other duties imposed upon him by law, and to provide for the equalization of assessments in this act provided for, the governor shall within thirty days after the date upon which this act takes effect name and designate two persons to be known and hereinafter referred to as executive directors, one of whom shall have at least five years' practical experience in irrigation and the other of whom shall have had at least five years' experience in administration and both of whom shall be residents of this state and continue to be such residents during their term of office, which term shall be four years, and until their successors have been named and have qualified. Their successors shall be named and designated in like manner. Each of said executive directors shall receive as compensation the sum of twenty dollars per day for each day employed by him in the performance of duties under this act, and shall receive actual traveling expenses while engaged in such duties, which shall be chargeable as a part of the cost of the project of the district for which such duties are performed. The powers and duties herein conferred and imposed upon the state engineer may be exercised by said executive directors under the direction of the state engineer.

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[1] Title amended, Stats. 1927, p. 1235.

## ORGANIZATION OF WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

### Who May Propose Organization of District.

SEC. 3. A majority in number of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands already irrigated or susceptible of irrigation from a common source and by the same system of storage and irrigation works and representing a majority in value of said lands may by written petition propose the organization of a water storage district under the provisions of this act which shall comprise lands so irrigated or susceptible of irrigation and may include therein lands situated in other distinctive district agencies of the state including other water storage districts having different plans and purposes and the object of which is not the same; organization of such a district under the provisions of this act may also be proposed by written petition signed by not less than five hundred petitioners who are holders of title or evidence of title to lands therein; provided, that the said petitioners must include the holders of title or evidence of title to not less than ten per cent in value of the lands within said proposed district. Such lands proposed to be organized into a water storage district need not consist of contiguous parcels. (Stats. 1923, p. 941.)

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Petition to Organize District.

SEC. 4. In order to propose the organization of a water storage district, a petition signed as provided in the preceding section setting forth generally the boundaries of the proposed district or describing the lands situated therein, and the location proposed for the storage of water to be used for such irrigation, any drainage or reclamation connected therewith, and any incidental development of hydroelectric energy, and the nature of the proposed works, and praying that the territory embraced within said proposed district may be organized as a water storage district under the provisions of this act, shall be presented to the state engineer. The petition may consist of any number of separate instruments, and must be accompanied with a good and sufficient undertaking, to be approved by the state engineer, in double the amount of the probable cost of organizing such district as estimated by said state engineer, conditioned that the sureties shall pay all of said costs in case said organization shall not be finally effected, and said state engineer shall have power to require the furnishing of any additional undertaking, or undertakings, or payments of money, in case he should deem the same necessary. Upon the presentation and filing of said petition and undertaking in the office of the said state engineer the said engineer shall forthwith fix a time and place at which he will hear said petition, which place shall be either the office of the state engineer at Sacramento or some place within the county, or one of the counties, within which any portion of the lands of said proposed district are situated and which time shall be not less than thirty nor more than sixty days after the presentation and filing of said petition. Said petition, together with a notice stating the time and place of the hearing so fixed by said engineer, shall be published in each county in which any of the lands of said proposed district are situate by said state engineer once a week for three successive weeks before said hearing. Said notice shall be issued by said state engineer, shall refer to said petition, and shall be directed to the persons named as petitioners therein, and to all other persons holding title or evidence of title to any lands included within the water storage district proposed in said petition, and to all other persons who may be interested in or affected by the project contemplated in said petition, and shall be substantially in the following form:

Before the state engineer, State of California.

To the persons named as petitioners in the foregoing petition, to all persons holding title or evidence of title to lands included within the water storage district proposed therein; and to all other persons who may be interested in or affected by the project contemplated in said petition:

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that the foregoing petition was filed with the state engineer on the ______ day of ______ and will be heard by said engineer at __________ on the ______ day of ______ at the hour of ___ m. of that day, at which time and place said engineer will hear and receive evidence in support of said petition or any objections which may be presented thereto, and will hear and determine the right of all parties holding title or evidence of title to lands not included in the water storage district proposed in said petition, but which lands are already irrigated or susceptible of irrigation from the same common source and by the same system of storage and irrigation works as are particularly referred to and described in said petition, to have said lands included in said district.

This notice is given pursuant to the provisions of an act, approved June 3, 1921, and known as California Water Storage District Act, to which said act particular reference is hereby made.

Dated____________________________.

____________________________________
State Engineer.

When contained upon more than one instrument one copy only of said petition need be published but the names attached to all said instruments must appear in such publication. Signatures to the petition may be withdrawn at any time before the publication is commenced as in this section required by filing a declaration signed by the petitioner, with the state engineer, stating that it is the intention of the petitioner to withdraw therefrom, which declaration shall be acknowledged in the same manner as conveyances of real estate are required to be acknowledged.

The notice herein in this section provided to be published, shall not be published until five days after the presentation and filing of said petition and undertaking in the office of said state engineer as herein provided. (Stats. 1929, p. 390.)

### Hearing on Petition.

Sec. 5. At the time and place fixed in said notice the state engineer shall proceed to hear said petition and to determine whether or not the same complies with the requirements hereinbefore set forth and whether or not the notice required herein has been published as required, and must hear all competent and relevant testimony offered in support of or in opposition thereto. Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time for the determination of said facts, not exceeding thirty days in all. No defect in the contents of the petition or in the title to or form of the notice or signatures, and no lack of signatures thereto, or to the petition as published, shall vitiate any proceedings thereon; provided, such petition or petitions have a sufficient number of qualified signatures attached thereto. The determination of said engineer shall be expressed by an order establishing the facts. If said state engineer shall determine that any of the requirements hereinbefore set forth have not been complied with the matter shall be dismissed, but without prejudice to the right of the proper number of persons to present a new petition covering the same matter or to present the same petition with additional signatures, if such additional signatures are necessary to comply with the requirements of this act. If the state engineer shall determine that all the said requirements have been complied with the said engineer shall forthwith proceed to hear said petition and all evidence offered in support of the petition and in support of said written objections, and the written application of any holder of title or evidence of title to lands included in said proposed water storage district, to have said lands excluded therefrom, and to also receive the written application of the holder of title or evidence of title to other lands already irrigated or susceptible of irrigation from the common source and by the same system of storage and irrigation works in said petition more particularly referred to and described, to have said lands included in said district and to participate in the benefits of such water storage district. Said engineer shall ascertain and determine the practicability, feasibility and utility of the proposed project set forth in said petition, and for that purpose may make, or cause to be made, all necessary studies, examinations, surveys, plans and estimates of cost, and in connection therewith said state engineer may employ all necessary engineers, attorneys, and other assistants, or acquire and use estimates, surveys, and reports theretofore made, for the accomplishment of said purposes, and the cost thereof shall not in the aggregate exceed a sum in dollars equal in amount to one-fourth the number of acres in such proposed district and shall be deemed a part of the expense of said project, and said state engineer shall issue warrants therefor, which warrants shall be considered and treated in all respects as warrants of the district and which shall be payable out of the funds of said district when the organization thereof has been completed, and the same, if necessary, may be included in any bond issue authorized for the purpose of said district. If said district shall, as a result of any election hereinafter provided for, be not organized, any warrants so issued by said state engineer shall be a charge upon the undertaking, or undertakings, hereinbefore and in section 4 of this act provided for, and shall thereupon become due and payable by the sureties therein named, and the holders of said warrants shall have a cause of action against said sureties thereon. (Stats. 1927, p. 1236.)

Not attempted delegation of legislative or judicial power.
*Tarpey* vs. *McClure*, 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

**Order on Petition.**

SEC. 6. Upon the final hearing of said petition the state engineer shall make an order reaffirming his conclusions as to the genuineness and sufficiency of the petition, affirming the regularity and sufficiency of the notice of hearing thereon, and determining the practicability, feasibility, and utility of the proposed project. The said engineer shall also in his said order establish the boundaries of the proposed district or describe the lands included therein, specify the location proposed for the storage of water to be used for any of the purposes of this act, and provide an estimate of the probable cost of the proposed project. The said state engineer shall also in his said order divide said proposed district into five, seven, nine, or eleven divisions in such manner as to segregate into separate divisions lands possessing the same general character of water rights or interests in and to the waters of such common source, which divisions shall be numbered first, second, third fourth, and fifth, and sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, or eleventh, according to the number of such divisions. The order of said state engineer, made as in this section provided, shall be signed by him and entered in full upon the records kept by him. A copy of such order certified by said state engineer, together with a map showing the exterior boundaries of the district and indicating the lands if any excluded therefrom, shall forthwith be filed for record in the office of the county recorder of each county in which any of the lands within the said district are situated. The finding of said state engineer in favor of the genuineness and sufficiency of the petition and the regularity and sufficiency of the notice of hearing thereon shall be final and conclusive against all persons except the State of California upon suit commenced by the attorney general. Any such suit must be commenced within ninety days after the date of first filing in the office of any county recorder of such certified copy of said order as hereinabove required. (Stats. 1923, p. 945.)

Authority of state engineer.

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983;
*Baldwin* vs. *Railroad Com.,* 206 Cal. 581, 275 Pac. 425.

**Election on Organization.**

SEC. 7. Said state engineer shall, within sixty days after the filing of said order, give notice of an election to be held in the proposed district for the purpose of determining whether or not the same shall be organized under the provisions of this act. Such notice shall describe the boundaries so established, or the lands so included, and the divisions so created, and shall designate a name for the proposed district, and said notice shall be published once a week for at least three weeks previous to such election in each county in which any land in the proposed district is situated. Such notice shall require ballots to be cast which shall contain the words "Water storage district—Yes" or "Water storage district—No," or words equivalent thereto, and also the names of persons to be voted for at said election. For the purposes of said election the state engineer must establish a convenient number of election precincts in said proposed district and define the boundaries thereof and at least one such precinct must be established for each division of said district and said state engineer, at the time of calling said election, shall in his order designate voting places and appoint three landholders of the district to act as a board of election at each voting place. Such election shall be conducted as nearly as practicable in accordance with the general water storage district election as in this act provided, but no particular form of ballot shall be required. Nominating petitions for officers to be elected at such election shall be filed as provided in section 39 of this act except that the same shall be filed in the office of the state engineer.

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure*, 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983;
*Bottoms* vs. *Madera Irr. Dist.*, 74 Cal. App. 681, 242 Pac. 100.

### Election of Directors.

SEC. 8. At such election there shall be elected a board of directors corresponding in number to the number of divisions in the district. None of said directors shall be elected by the district at large, but one director shall be elected by each division to represent such division. Said officers shall qualify in the same manner as is provided for the qualification of the same officers elected at a general water storage district election, as hereinafter in this act provided. (Stats. 1927, p. 1237.)

### Qualification of Voters.

SEC. 9. Only the holders of title or evidence of title to lands situated within the district shall be entitled to vote at such election, and every such holder of title or evidence of title shall be entitled to vote, in person or as hereinafter provided, in each precinct in which any of the lands so owned by him are situated and to cast one vote for each one hundred dollars', or fraction thereof, worth of land in said precinct so owned by him. Each male or female voter over the age of twenty-one years shall be entitled to vote in person or by proxy. Any guardian, administrator, or executor of a person or estate owning land within the district shall be considered the holder of title or evidence of title to such lands for the purposes of this act, where the owner in fee is not entitled to vote. Any corporation holding title or evidence of title to lands within the district shall be entitled to vote as such landowner through any officer or agent thereunto duly authorized in writing under the seal of the corporation. Entrymen upon public lands situated within the district shall be considered as the holders of title or evidence of title to such lands for the purposes of this act. No person shall vote by proxy unless his authority to cast such vote shall be evidenced by an instrument in writing duly acknowledged and certified in the same manner as grants of real property and filed with the board of election. The provisions of this act relating to general elections, shall, except as herein otherwise specifically provided, apply to elections on organization of any water storage district under this act. (Stats. 1923, p. 945.)

### Canvass of Votes.

SEC. 10. The state engineer shall on the second Monday succeeding such election proceed to canvass the vote cast thereat and if upon such canvass it appears that a majority of all the votes cast are "Water storage district—Yes" said engineer shall, by an order entered in the records kept by him, declare the territory duly organized as a water storage district under the name theretofore designated, and shall declare the candidate for director receiving at such election the highest number of votes in each division to be duly elected a director. If upon such canvass it appears that a majority of all the votes cast are "Water storage district—No," then the result of such election shall be declared accordingly and entered of record in the records kept by the state engineer. (Stats. 1927, p. 1237.)

### Order on Election, Filing of.

SEC. 11. If such order on election shall declare the territory duly organized as a water storage district the said state engineer shall forthwith cause a copy of such order, duly certified, to be filed for record in the office of the county recorder of each county in which any portion of the lands embraced in such district is situated, and from and after such filing the organization of such district shall be complete and said district shall have the powers and rights conferred upon it by the provisions of this act. Said state engineer shall at the same time issue certificates of election to the persons declared in said order to be elected directors. (Stats. 1927, p. 1238.)

## ORGANIZATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND REPORT OF BOARD ON PROJECT

### Board of Directors, Tenure of Office.

SEC. 12. The directors elected at such election, after qualifying by receiving their certificates of election and subscribing the official oath and giving the required bonds, shall immediately enter upon their duties and shall hold office, respectively, until their successors are elected and qualified. (Stats. 1927, p. 1238.)

### Board of Directors, Organization of.

SEC. 13. The directors shall on the first Tuesday after their election and qualification meet and organize as a board and select and designate an office of the board, which shall also be the office of the district, at which the board shall thereafter hold its meetings. The board shall then proceed to classify themselves by lot into two classes, as nearly equal in number as possible, and the term of office of the class having the greater number shall expire on the first Tuesday in March following the next general February election in this act provided for; and the term of office of the class having the lesser number shall terminate on the first Tuesday in March following the next general February election thereafter. After such classification the board shall elect a president from their number and shall appoint a secretary and treasurer, each of whom shall hold office during the pleasure of the board. The term of office of any treasurer holding office at the date this amendatory act becomes effective shall terminate at the general water storage district election next thereafter held in the district for which such treasurer holds office; provided, however, that if any vacancy shall occur in the office of any incumbent treasurer prior to such general water storage district election, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the board of directors of the district in which such vacancy occurs, the treasurer so appointed to hold office at the pleasure of the board of directors. The amount of the bond to be given by the secretary for the faithful performance of his duties shall be fixed by the board.

The office of the board and its place of meetings may be changed by a majority vote of the board of directors, but no such change shall become effective until after the resolution making such change shall be published once a week for two successive weeks in the county in which the office of the board of directors has theretofore been located. (Stats. 1927, p. 1238.)

### Board of Directors, Meetings of.

Sec. 14. The board of directors shall thereafter hold regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the place selected as the office of the board; provided, that such board may by resolution duly entered upon its minutes fix any other time or place for the regular monthly meeting, but no such change shall become effective until after the resolution making such change shall have been published once a week for two successive weeks in the county in which the office of the board of directors is located. Such special meetings of the board of directors may be held as may be required for the proper transaction of the business of the district, but a special meeting must be ordered by a majority of the board. The order must be entered of record, and five days notice thereof must be given by the secretary to each director not joining in the order. The order must specify the business to be transacted, and no other business than that specified in the order may be transacted at such special meeting, unless all the members are present and consent to the consideration of any business not specified in said order. All meetings of the board must be public and a majority shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A smaller number of directors than a quorum may adjourn from day to day. All records of the board shall be open to public inspection during business hours.

### Board of Directors, Complementary Powers and Duties of.

Sec. 15. The board of directors shall have in addition to the powers and authority hereinbefore and hereinafter conferred upon it, such further powers and authority as may be necessary to enable it to fully perform the duties imposed upon it by this act.

### Provisions for Defraying Preliminary Expenses.

Sec. 16. The board of directors must and shall at its first regular meeting or within ninety (90) days thereafter levy an assessment of an equal amount upon each acre of land in said district sufficient to pay all warrants issued by the state engineer, in accordance with the provisions of this act, and to defray all other expenses as estimated by the board, incurred and to be incurred for the general benefit of the district up to the time of the levy of the assessment provided for in section 19 of this act, including expenses incurred prior to the organization of the district, but in the judgment of the board properly incurred for the general benefit of the district, the amounts required to be raised to pay warrants of the state engineer and to pay such expenses to be separately stated in the resolution levying the assessment. In the event the assessment so levied for such purposes shall not be sufficient for the same, it shall be the duty of the board of directors from time to time levy an additional assessment or assessments of the same character for said purposes; provided, however, that the total of all such assessments, exclusive of the amount assessed for the purpose of paying warrants of the state engineer, shall not exceed fifty (50) cents per acre, except as hereinafter provided.

If, after the total amount raised by all such assessments shall have been expended or its expenditure authorized, such total amount is found to be insufficient to meet all of such expenses of the district, the directors may, in the manner hereafter provided, levy an additional assessment or assessments of like character for such purposes up to an amount not in excess of fifty (50) cents per acre. Before levying any such additional assessment the board of directors shall pass a resolution declaring its intention so to do and in such resolution shall appoint a time not less than two weeks and not more than four weeks from the passage of such resolution of intention at which the matter of levying such additional assessment will be considered in open meeting. A copy of such resolution of intention shall be published once a week for at least two weeks before the time so appointed in a newspaper of general circulation in each county in which land within the district is located. At the time so appointed the board shall meet and in open meeting consider the matter of levying such additional assessment and hear any objection thereto and at or after such meeting may upon approval of the state engineer levy such additional assessment, if in its judgment the best interests of the district so require. Every assessment levied under this section shall constitute a lien upon the lands affected thereby, until the full amount thereof is paid, which lien shall be prior to all other liens, except state, county and municipal taxes and assessments, or taxes levied or assessed by or under statutory authority, and shall be collected in the same manner as other assessments provided for in this act. The provisions of this section as amended shall apply to all water storage districts, whether organized before or after the date of this amendatory act becomes effective. (Stats. 1927, p. 1239.)

Original section constitutional.
*Tarpey* vs. *McClure*, 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Board of Directors, Preparation and Submission of Report of.

SEC. 17. The board of directors shall upon the organization of a water storage district as in this act provided, proceed to make or cause to be made, all such examinations, surveys, detailed plans and specifications, and estimates of costs for the acquisition, appropriation, diversion, storage, conservation and distribution of water, any drainage or reclamation works connected therewith, and the generation of hydroelectric energy incident thereto, and the sale and distribution thereof, as may be necessary or requisite to enable said board of directors to ascertain and estimate the requirements and works necessary as aforesaid, for the purpose of said water storage district, and the probable cost and expense thereof, and to make a report thereof as hereinafter provided, in which connection said board may use and adopt all previous estimates, surveys, reports and other data it may have acquired or which are available to it, adapted to that purpose, and may employ all necessary engineers, attorneys and other assistants for the accomplishment of said purposes, and the cost thereof shall be deemed a part of the expense of said project, and such board may issue warrants therefor, which shall be payable out of the funds of said district and may be included in any bond issue authorized for the purposes of said district.

If the board of directors proposes to acquire any property of any kind or character, or any interest or easement therein for the purposes or use of said water storage district by purchase or lease, or in any manner other than by condemnation proceedings, that fact shall be stated in their said report and a true copy or copies of any instrument or instruments evidencing such proposed acquisition of such property, interest or easement therein, or the right to acquire same shall be made a part of said report.

Except where it is proposed to be acquired by eminent domain proceedings no property of any kind or interest therein belonging to any water corporation which is a public utility, shall be acquired by a water storage district, nor shall any such properties of such public utility be included in the report of the directors in this paragraph provided for, unless and until the railroad commission of California shall have first made its order authorizing such sale and such abandonment or curtailment of service by such public utility as would result from the acquisition by said water storage district of said properties of such public utility.

A certified copy of any order of authority so made by the said railroad commission shall be made a part of and filed with said report of said board of directors and unless such order of the railroad commission in effect finds and declares that such sale and such abandonment or curtailment of service of such public utility through the acquisition of such properties by the water storage district will be to the interest of the consumers of such public utility and that the terms and conditions of such acquisition of such properties of such public utility by the water storage district is fair, just and equitable to the consumers of such public utility, such report shall be deemed insufficient for any of the purposes of this act.

Said board of directors may at their option segregate and divide the plans, specifications and estimates of cost into one or more units of construction, and may in said plan provide that one or more individual units of construction shall not be entered upon immediately, but shall be authorized and undertaken in such order and at such future time as the board of directors shall thereafter determine. Upon the completion of said examination and study of the proposed project by the said board of directors, the said board shall prepare and file in the office of the state engineer, and a true copy thereof in the office of the secretary of said board, a report thereof, in which said report shall be set forth in full and in detail the character and nature of the proposed works, a description of the rights both to waters and lands it will be necessary to acquire to carry said project to completion, accompanied by detailed plans and specifications, and a detailed estimate of the cost of said project, including the acquisition of all rights, necessary to the completion and operation thereof. The board of directors shall attach to said report a recommendation that said projects shall be carried out in accordance with the plans and specifications in said report contained, or that said project be abandoned. Such report when completed shall be signed by a majority of the board of directors, and entered in full upon the minutes of said board. If said board shall determine to segregate and divide the plans, specifications and estimates into more than one unit of construction, such plans, specifications, and estimates shall be complete as to each unit, and the board shall in its report specify the particular unit or units the construction of which shall be immediately entered upon and the particular unit or units reserved for future action.

If the board of directors of any district organized under this act shall fail, neglect, or refuse to complete and file its said report within ten years from the date of the filing of the order of the state engineer declaring said district duly organized as provided in section 11 hereof, the project of said district shall be deemed abandoned and the board of directors thereof shall within ninety (90) days thereafter, pay all outstanding debts and claims against said district and shall within said time remit to the assessment payers of said district in proportion to the amount paid by said assessment payers on the last call or assessment levied by said board of directors, the balance of any funds then remaining with the treasurer of said district or to its credit with the county treasurer or county treasurers within which the lands of said district are situated. Nothing herein contained shall affect, impair, modify or invalidate in any way any report which has already been adopted or approved at an election within the district; and the district and the directors thereof may proceed with such report as so originally adopted. (Stats. 1929, p. 392.)

## PROCEEDINGS OF STATE ENGINEER SUBSEQUENT TO REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Action on Adverse Report.

Sec. 18. If the said board of directors recommends that said project be abandoned the state engineer shall make such further investigation of said project as is in his judgment desirable and shall within sixty days after the filing of said report make and enter upon the records kept by him an order either (a) approving and confirming the said report and recommendation and declaring said project abandoned, which said order shall be without prejudice to the presentation of another petition covering the same matter, or (b) approving and adopting the said report but taking no action with respect to the said recommendation, and calling another election to be held in the district for the purpose of determining whether or not the recommendation of said board of directors shall be adopted or rejected. In the event the said order so made and entered by the state engineer shall call an election, said state engineer shall within thirty days after the entry of said order give notice of such election. Said notice shall be published once a week for at least three weeks previous to such election in each county in which any land in the district is situated. Said notice shall require ballots to be cast, which shall contain the words "Completion of project—Yes" or "Completion of project—No." For the purposes of said election the state engineer must establish a convenient number of election precincts in said district and define the boundaries thereof and said state engineer at the time of calling said election shall in his order designate voting places and appoint three land holders of the district to act as a board of election at each voting place. Such election shall be conducted as nearly as practicable in accordance with the provisions of this act relating to general water storage district elections, but no particluar form of ballot shall be required. The qualification of voters at said election shall be the same as prescribed for the original election on organization of district, and the votes cast at said election shall be canvassed in the same manner as votes cast at said original election, and the result of such election shall be declared and entered of record in the minutes of the board. If such result shall show more than one-half of all the votes cast are ''Completion of project—No,'' or that more than one-half of the qualified voters who voted at said election voted ''Completion of project—No,'' the state engineer shall make and enter in his records an order declaring said project abandoned, and requiring all persons, except the holders of warrants issued pursuant to the provisions of this act and which have been duly presented for payment, having claims against said district, or proposed district, to file them with the necessary vouchers within three months from the making of said order in the office of said state engineer. Notice of said order requiring presentation of claims stating the time and place thereof shall be published in the county in which the office of the district is located by said state engineer once a week for four successive weeks, the first publication of which said notice shall be made within ten days after the making of said order. After all warrants issued under the provisions of this act which have been duly presented for payment and all claims that have been duly presented and have been allowed and approved by said state engineer or the board of directors of said district, have been paid, said state engineer shall forthwith cause a copy of said order declaring said project abandoned, duly certified by said state engineer, to be filed for record in the office of the county recorder of each county in which any portion of the land embraced in said district is situated, and from and after such filing said district shall be deemed dissolved and all liens which may have attached to any of the lands therein under any provisions of this act shall be discharged and any undertaking given pursuant thereto shall be annulled and of no further effect. If the canvass of the votes cast at such election show more than one-half of all votes cast are ''Completion of project—Yes'' and also shows that more than one-half of the qualified voters who voted at said election voted ''Completion of project—Yes'' said state engineer shall thereupon appoint the commissioners provided for in section 19 of this act and thereafter such proceedings shall be taken and followed as are provided in said section 19 and subsequent sections of this act. (Stats. 1929, p. 394.)

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Action on Favorable Report, Assessment of Project Cost by Commissioners, and Review Thereof by Adjustment Board.

SEC. 19. If the board of directors recommends that said project be carried out in accordance with the plans and specifications in its said report contained, the state engineer shall make such further investigation of such project as is in his judgment desirable and shall as soon as possible after the expiration of sixty days after the filing of said report make and enter upon the records kept by him an order either approving and confirming said report and recommendation or disapproving the same. Pending final approval or disapproval by the state engineer, the board of directors may amend, modify, or supplement their report and the plans, specifications and estimates and other matters accompanying the same, either on their initiative or in response to suggestions by the state engineer.

Immediately after making and recording such order, the state engineer shall call a district election for the purpose of determining whether such recommendation and report shall be adopted, such election to be noticed, held, and conducted and the result thereof determined and declared in all respects as nearly as possible as provided in section 18 of this act, the notice of election to state whether such report and recommendation is approved or disapproved by the state engineer.

If the result of such election shows that more than one-half of all votes cast are "Completion of projects—No" or that more than one-half of the qualified voters who voted at said election voted "Completion of project—No," the project shall be deemed abandoned and proceedings shall be thereafter taken as provided in section 18 in case of abandonment. If the result of such election shows a majority of all votes cast are "Completion of project—Yes" and also shows that a majority of the qualified voters who voted at said election voted "Completion of project—Yes," said report and recommendation shall be deemed to be adopted by the district. In case of the adoption of said report and recommendation the state engineer shall forthwith appoint three (3) commissioners whose duty it shall be to assess the cost of the project, or in the event said board shall have divided the project into units of construction, the cost of the unit or units specified for immediate construction, upon the benefited lands within the district, and the said cost shall be apportioned in accordance with the benefits that will accrue to each tract of land held in separate ownership in said district by reason of the expenditures of said sums of money, and the completion of the project, or such unit or units thereof as have been specified for immediate construction, such assessment to be in gold coin of the United States; provided, however, that if the project shall include plans for the generation of electric power, then the commissioners shall ascertain the total cost of all the properties which are necessary to be used in connection with the generation of electric power as set forth in said plan, and shall also ascertain what portion of the assessment of benefits to accrue to each tract made as herein provided consists of costs of the properties which are necessary to be so used; and provided, further, that where any such tract of land consists of more than one section such apportionment to such tract of land shall be made according to legal subdivisions thereof or to other boundaries sufficient to identify the same in subdivisions not greater than one section in area, but any failure or defect in complying with this requirement shall not invalidate said apportionment or said assessment. One of said commissioners shall be a civil engineer and one shall have a practical knowledge of irrigation, and none of said commissioners shall have any interest in any land in the district either directly or indirectly, and each commissioner before entering upon his duties shall take and subscribe an oath that he is not in any manner interested directly or indirectly in any land in the district and that he will perform the duties of commissioner to the best of his ability, and said commissioners shall be paid as compensation for the services rendered by them such sum, or sums, as the state engineer shall fix and determine, which shall be considered a part of the cost of the project, and said state engineer may issue warrants therefor, which shall be payable out of the funds of said district and may be included in any bond issue authorized for the purposes of said district. The said commissioners shall receive from the board of directors of the district a copy of the detailed plans, specifications, and estimate of the costs of the project, which have been duly filed with the state engineer. The said commissioners shall thereupon prepare and certify to the state engineer in triplicate rolls which shall contain:

(1) A description of each tract held in separate ownership by legal subdivisions, governmental surveys or other boundaries sufficient to identify the same; provided, however, that if any area composed of more than one tract held in separate ownership is not assessed because the lands therein will not be benefited by the expenditure of the funds to be raised by the assessment, a description of such area as a whole without a description of each tract thereof shall be sufficient;

(2) The number of acres in each tract;

(3) The name and address of the owner of each tract, if known, and if unknown, that fact, but no mistake or error in the name of the owner or supposed owner of the property assessed, and no mistake in any other particular, shall render the assessment thereof invalid;

(4) The rate per acre of such assessment upon each tract assessed or if no assessment is made upon any tract, or area composed of more than one tract, a statement of that fact;

(4½) The rate per acre of such assessment upon each tract assessed for the costs of the properties which are necessary to be used in connection with the generating of electric power, or if no assessment of such costs is made upon any tract, or area composed of more than one tract, a statement of that fact;

(5) The total amount of the assessment as computed;

(6) Any other statement which may be required by the state engineer and as to which notice is given in writing to the commissioners at the time of transmitting the plans and specifications and costs of the work for the district before mentioned.

The roll shall be separately made for lands lying within different counties contained within said district. Said rolls when completed shall be accompanied by the written report of the commissioners wherein is set out with particularity the exact nature and quantum of the benefits so assessed, both in respect of the right in and to stored surplus waters, and the right to store water in the reservoir or reservoirs of the district, apportioned and allocated to each such tract of land in said district and also through any drainage or reclamation work connected therewith and also the portion of the assessment attributable to the cost of the properties which are necessary to be used in connection with the generation of electric power. In such report lands embraced within a comprehensive area or a political subdivision of the state may be referred to generally as lands lying within such area or subdivision without further description.

Said rolls when completed shall be duly certified by said commissioners and forthwith by them filed in the office of the state engineer. Said state engineer shall forthwith transmit two copies of said rolls to the board of directors of said district, who shall file one copy in their records and thereupon transmit to the county treasurer of each county within such district that portion of the roll relating to the lands within such county. Thereafter the executive directors and the president of the board of directors of the water storage district in which the lands described in said rolls are situated shall become and constitute a board, in the nature of a board of equalization, which shall be known and designated as the "adjustment board" and whose functions shall be to consider and act upon objections, if any, presented as herein provided to the assessment made by said commissioners. For that purpose said adjustment board shall at once organize by the election from its members of a president and a secretary and shall thereupon appoint times and places not less than thirty days after said rolls have been filed in the records of said board of directors when and where it will meet within each county wherein lands of said district are situated for the purpose of hearing objections to said assessments, and notice of such hearing shall be published at least once a week for two successive weeks in each county in which any land within said district may be situated. Said objections, if any, must be in writing verified and filed with the state engineer, and shall set forth the grounds of such objections. Such verification shall be made by the affidavit of the objector or some other person who is familiar with the facts. Said adjustment board may postpone such hearings from time to time. At such hearings the adjustment board shall hear such evidence as may be offered touching the correctness of such assessment, and may modify, amend, or approve the said assessment in any particular and may reapportion the whole or any part thereof; provided, however, that no assessment shall be increased except after personal notice or notice by registered mail given to the owner, if known, by depositing in the post office at the place in which the office of said district is located, in a sealed envelope addressed to each of such owners at his last known, if any, place of residence or business, otherwise at the county seat of the county in which any portion of his lands are situated, with full postage paid, at least two weeks before said hearing, or if unknown by publication at least once a week for two successive weeks in the county in which said land in the district may be located, and upon a hearing of objections thereto if made.

Said adjustment board, after said hearings, must make an order approving such assessment as finally fixed or modified, which order shall be filed with and entered in the records of the state engineer, and the apportionment and determination of said adjustment board shall be final and conclusive, and no action or defense shall ever be maintained attacking the same in any respect. Two copies of said assessment roll as finally fixed and approved by the adjustment board shall be forthwith certified by the secretary of such adjustment board and transmitted to the board of directors of the said district, who shall file one copy in their records and thereupon immediately transmit to the county treasurer of each county within such district that portion of the roll relating to the lands within such county together with a copy of the order of approval of such assessment roll by said adjustment board. Thereafter said assessment roll shall be conclusive evidence before any court or tribunal that said assessment has been made and levied according to law.

When the board of directors shall file with the county treasurer of a county within such district the said assessment list or roll as finally approved as hereinbefore provided the charges assessed thereby upon the several tracts of land within the county shall constitute a lien thereon which shall be prior to all other liens except state, county and municipal taxes, and assessments or taxes levied or assessed by or under statutory authority and shall impart notice thereof to all persons. Where bonds of such district have been issued upon any such assessment no act or conduct on the part of such board of directors, or any officer herein mentioned, shall invalidate any such assessment after the same shall have become a lien in the manner herein provided.

In the event of the division of the project into units of construction, and the specification of one or more units for future construction, the board of directors shall at such time as it shall determine upon the construction of any such unit or units, pass a resolution to that effect and cause a certified copy thereof to be transmitted to the state engineer. At such time the board may amend the plans, specifications and estimates of costs of such unit or units by making such changes therein, modifications thereof, and additions thereto, as it shall deem desirable, and in the event of any such change, modification, or addition, the board shall cause to be filed with the state engineer, the plans, specifications and estimates of costs of such unit or units as amended. Upon receipt by the state engineer, of such certified copy of resolution and such amended plans, specifications and estimates of cost, if any, the same proceedings for levying, approving and collecting an assessment to meet the cost of the unit or units to be constructed shall be had as hereinbefore provided for an assessment to meet the cost of the unit or units first constructed.

Any proceedings taken under this section prior to the going into effect of this act amending the same, and conforming to said section as it read before such amendment, shall not be invalidated by the passage of this act, but all subsequent proceedings shall be taken into accord with said section as so amended. (Stats. 1929, p. 395.)

Hearing as to benefits.

*Fallbrook Irr. Dist.* vs. *Bradley*, 164 U. S. 112;
*Tarpey* vs. *McClure*, 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Apportionment of Assessment, Where Land Subdivided.

SEC. 19a. When any tract of land upon which any assessment provided for by this act has been levied shall be subdivided into smaller parcels, the board of directors of the district shall, upon the written request of the owner of such tract or of any of such smaller parcels and after hearing, reapportion the said assessment in such manner as will in the judgment of the board charge each of said smaller parcels with a just portion of such assessment. Supplementary assessment rolls, showing such reapportionment, shall be made and shall be made separately for lands lying within different counties. Said board of directors shall thereafter file copies of said supplementary assessment rolls with the state engineer and shall also file with the county treasurer of each county in which any portion of said tract so subdivided is situated the supplementary assessment roll relating to the lands in such county, and from and after such filing the said assessment shall be an assessment upon each of said smaller parcels in accordance with such reapportionment and not an assessment upon said tract as a whole; and such supplementary assessment rolls shall be deemed to be a part of and amendatory of the assessment roll or rolls theretofore filed for all purposes. Such reapportionment shall in no wise affect the assessment except as to the lands included in the supplementary assessment rolls. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1246.)

### Reassessment, After Five Years.

Sec. 19b. At the expiration of five years after the commissioners have assessed the cost of the project upon the benefited lands within the district, and the costs of the portion of the project used for the generation of electric energy, and thereafter at periods of not less than five years, the state engineer, upon the request of the board of directors, or upon petition of holders of title to ten per cent of the lands within the district, shall appoint three commissioners to reassess the costs of the project upon the benefited lands within the district, whereupon the state engineer shall appoint such commissioners, and thereupon proceedings shall be had for assessing the costs of the project as provided in section 19 of this act. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1247.)

## PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS

### Provision for Payment in Full.

Sec. 20. The assessment list of each county must remain open for payment in full in the office of the county treasurer of the respective counties within the district for a period of thirty days; and during the time they so remain any person may pay the amount of the charge assessed against any tract of land to the county treasurer in gold coin of the United States or in warrants of the district drawn by the state engineer or the board of directors, or the proper officers thereof.

### Collection of Assessments, Additional Help.

Sec. 20a. The county treasurer of any county in which any of the lands contained in the district are located during the time for the collection of the taxes or assessments of the district may require the board of directors of such district to provide and pay for such additional help as may be required to care for the matters relating to the collection of the said taxes of the district. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1277.)

### Collection of Unpaid Assessments.

Sec. 21. At the end of thirty days the county treasurer must make return to the board of directors of the district of all assessments paid. All unpaid assessments shall bear interest at the rate of seven per cent per annum. Thereafter all unpaid assessments and accrued interest shall be collected when and as called, and paid to the treasurer of the county or counties, who shall collect and hold such moneys to the credit of the district. Unless bonds shall have been authorized as hereinafter provided, all such payments shall be made in such amounts or installments and at such times respectively as the said board, from time to time, in its discretion, by order entered in its minutes, may direct. Upon making any order fixing and calling such installment or amount, the secretary shall also enter in the minutes of the board, and certify to each county treasurer for signature and mailing or publication in the counties in which any lands within the district are situated a notice in substantially the following form:

(Name) water storage district. (Location of the principal place of business.) Notice is hereby given that at a meeting of the board of directors held on ------ an installment of ------ per cent of assessment number ------ was ordered paid within sixty days from the date thereof to the respective county treasurers of the counties wherein lands of such district are situate. Any installment which shall remain unpaid on the (day fixed) will be delinquent, together with the accrued interest thereon, with ten per cent of such installment and interest added as penalty.

(Signed) ----------------------

Treasurer of ------ County.

Such notice must be sent through the mail, addressed to each owner of land in the district at his place of residence if known, and if not known, at the place where the principal office of the district is situated, or in lieu thereof such notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in each such county.

If any such installment shall remain unpaid at the expiration of said sixty days from the date of the order, then the said installment of said assessment shall become delinquent, together with the accrued interest thereon and a penalty of ten per cent of the amount of said installment and interest shall be added thereto and collected for the use of the district.

Immediately after the said installment has become delinquent the said county treasurer or county treasurers must prepare and as soon as the same is complete publish once a week for two consecutive weeks in each county wherein lands of the district are situated, in one notice a list of all delinquencies in such county, which notice shall contain a description of the property assessed, the name of the person to whom it is assessed or a statement that it is assessed to unknown owners, if such is the fact, the amount then due on said property, and a notice that the property assessed will be sold on the date therein stated in front of the courthouse of said county to pay the amount then due on said property. The date of said sale shall not be less than ten days after the date of the last publication of said notice. At the time stated in said notice, or such other time to which said sale may have been postponed, the county treasurer must sell said property to the highest bidder for gold coin of the United States. Out of the proceeds of said sale the county treasurer must deposit the amount due on said property as shown in said notice to the proper fund of the said district. The county treasurer must pay to the owner of said property any surplus remaining after said deposit to the credit of the district, after first deducting any expense of sale. Except where bonds have been issued upon an assessment the board of directors may direct the county treasurer to postpone said sale from time to time, for not less than ten nor more than thirty days at one time, by a written notice posted at the place of sale.

If no bid is made for said property equal to the amount due thereon, it must be struck off to the district for the said amount so due. A certificate of such sale shall be executed by the county treasurer to the purchaser, and this certificate of sale shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder of said county. Any person interested in said property may redeem the same at any time within three years after the date of said sale, even though the district may be in process of dissolution or may have already been dissolved. Such person shall pay to the county treasurer the amount for which said property was sold, and interest on the said sum at the rate of one per cent per month from the date of said sale, which amount shall be credited to the proper fund of said district, or paid to the person holding the certificate of sale to the property sought to be redeemed.

If no redemption shall be made within said three years, the purchaser or the district, if the property shall have been sold to the district, or the assignees or transferees of the district, shall be entitled to a deed executed by the county treasurer or his successor in office, even though the district may be in the process of dissolution or may have already been dissolved. The effect of such deed shall be to convey said property free and clear of all liens and incumbrances except state, county and municipal taxes, assessments or taxes levied or assessed by or under statutory authority and any water storage district assessment or portion thereof remaining unpaid at the date of said sale, each installment whereof may be called and collected as herein provided. The board of directors may sell such property sold to the district at any time at a public auction after notice given for the same period and in the same manner as herein provided for sale of delinquent assessments, but not for a sum less than the amount for which said property was sold, with interest at seven per cent per annum, and the deed executed in pursuance of such sale shall convey said property free from all incumbrances except as hereinabove provided for said deed by the county treasurer. The board of directors may also dispose of said property at a private sale, without any notice, when the district is in the process of dissolution and such sale is deemed for the best interests of the district; the consideration received from the sale of said property may be past or present consideration, but must not be less than that herein provided for in the case of sales at public auction; and in any case where a district is in the process of dissolution, has sold and transferred any of its property at a private sale, for valuable consideration, such sale and transfer is hereby validated and approved. (Amended 1931, p. 750.)

## SUPPLEMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

### Manner of Making Levy.

SEC. 22. Whenever after completion of the works of a district in whole or in part, it becomes necessary in the opinion of its board of directors to raise any sum for the maintenance, repairs or operation of its works or for the conduct and management of the district or its works, the board of directors shall first cause to be prepared and when prepared, adopt a report showing the stage to which the said works have been completed and paid for, the sum or sums that will be required for the maintenance or repair or operation of said works, or for the conduct or management of the district or its works, with reasonable particularity, together with any plans and specifications for any work to be done, and an estimate of the aggregate cost thereof, a copy of which said report with the said plans and specifications shall be placed on file with the secretary of said board, and a notice of the filing of said report stating the purpose of the same, and where the same may be inspected by any person interested, and fixing a time within which protests against the adoption of said report and the levying of any assessment thereunder may be filed, and the time and place when a hearing on such protests will be had. Such hearings shall be public, and held at the ordinary place of business of the board of directors of said district within said district, at which said hearing all protestants shall be permitted to appear in person or by attorney and present their objections to such report, if any. At the conclusion of such hearing said board may adopt such report or modify the same or cause a new report to be made and prepared to be again set for hearing as in the first instance, or abandon either in whole or in part the levying of any assessment pursuant to such report. If after such hearing said board shall determine that such assessment be necessary, said board may make an order of supplementary assessment. Such supplementary assessment shall be spread between the respective tracts of land in the proportions which the total amounts assessed against such tracts by the original and all subsequent assessments for construction purposes bear to one another. The order making such supplementary assessment shall be entered in the minutes of the board, shall state the total amount necessary to be reased and shall fix the rate of assessment which shall be the percentage of the total amount assessed by the original and all subsequent assessments for construction purposes which is required to produce the amount necessary to be raised. Upon the making of such order, the board shall cause to be prepared a supplementary assessment roll showing by description each tract assessed, the total of assessments against the same for construction purposes, the rate of assessment and the amount assessed against the same by such supplementary assessment in dollars and cents computed at such rate. Upon the completion of such supplementary assessment roll, the board shall file with the county treasurer of each county wherein are situated lands subject to such assessment, a copy of so much of such assessment roll as pertains to the lands within that county, and thereupon such assessment shall constitute a lien upon each tract shown to be assessed by the copy of the assessment roll so filed for the amount assessed against it, such lien to be of the same character and to have the same incidents as the lien of an original assessment for purposes of construction. At any time within sixty (60) days from the filing of the copy of the assessment roll as aforesaid, the same may be amended by the board of directors to correct errors either on its own initiative or at the instance of any landowner affected, such amendment to be made by endorsement upon the assessment roll by the county treasurer upon the certification of the error to him by the board of directors. Such supplementary assessment shall be collected in the manner herein provided for the collection of original assessments and the board of directors may call the same as a whole or in installments from time to time, as it may deem best.

The report of the commissioners allocating or spreading the original assessment levied for construction purposes and all assessment rolls for such assessment or for supplementary assessments for such purposes shall continue in force as the basis for allocating and spreading assessments for maintenance repair or operation of the works of the project or for the management and conduct of such works or of the district. All provisions of this act with respect to the levy and collection of assessments shall, so far as appropriate, be applicable to such supplementary assessments.

For the purpose of the care, operation, management, repair or improvement of such portions of the project as are in use, including salaries of officers and employees, and all other operating and maintenance expenses, the board may in lieu (either in part or in whole) of levying assessments as in this section provided for, fix rates of tolls and charges for irrigation or available irrigation and other services rendered by the district, and collect the same from all persons receiving the benefit of such irrigation or other services, such tolls and charges to be proportional as nearly as possible to the service rendered.

Whenever any tolls or charges for the use of the water or for other services rendered by the district provided for by this act have been fixed by the board of directors, it shall be lawful to make the same payable in advance, and in case any tolls or charges remain unpaid for a period of thirty days after the same become payable, the same shall become delinquent and a penalty of ten per cent shall be added thereto and such delinquent tolls and charges shall bear interest at the rate of twelve per cent per annum. The board of directors may, after any toll or charge becomes delinquent, file in the office of the county recorder of the county in which are situated the lands as to which such tolls or charges are delinquent, a list showing the names of the owners of such lands, if known, and if not known, a statement of that fact, a description of such lands sufficient for identification and the amounts of tolls and charges which are delinquent, and upon the filing of such list the tolls and charges so listed, together with the penalties and interest thereon, shall become a lien upon the lands as to which such tolls and charges are delinquent in the same manner and of the same character as the lien of a district assessment. The board of directors of any water storage district may at any time after any toll or charge provided for in this act has become delinquent, direct that proceedings be not taken to enforce the lien therefor, and in place of such proceedings bring suit in the name of the district against the delinquent to enforce collection of such delinquent toll or charge. In such suit the district may recover the amount of such toll or charge, together with penalties and interest, and costs of suit. (Stats. 1927, p. 1249.)

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Special Assessments, When and How Made.

SEC. 23. In the event that the original assessment for the project or any unit thereof is insufficient to provide for the completion of the project or of such unit, the board of directors shall levy and collect a supplementary assessment or assessments to cover the estimated cost of completion thereof. Each such supplementary assessment shall be spread between the different tracts of land in the proportion which the amounts assessed against such tracts by the original assessment bear to one another. Such supplementary assessment shall be made by order entered in the minutes of the board, which order shall state the total amount necessary to be raised and shall fix the rate of assessment which shall be the percentage of the total amount assessed by the original assessment which is required to produce the amount necessary to be raised. Upon the making of such order, the board shall cause to be prepared a supplementary assessment roll showing by description each tract assessed, the amount assessed against the same by the original assessment, the rate of assessment and the amount assessed against the same by such supplementary assessment in dollars and cents computed at such rate. Upon the completion of such supplementary assessment roll, the board shall file with the county treasurer of each county wherein are situated lands subject to such assessment a copy of so much of such assessment roll as pertains to lands within that county and thereupon such assessment shall constitute a lien upon each tract shown to be assessed by the copy of the assessment roll so filed for the amount assessed against it, such lien to be of the same character and to have the same incidents as the lien of the original assessment. At any time within sixty (60) days from the filing of the copy of the assessment roll as aforesaid, the same may be amended by the board of directors to correct errors either on its own initiative or at the instance of any landowner affected, such amendment to be made by endorsement upon the assessment roll by the county treasurer upon the certification of the error to him by the board of directors. Such supplementary assessment shall be collected in the manner herein provided for the collection of original assessments, and the board of directors may call the same as a whole or in installments from time to time, as it may deem best.

The board of directors may also determine upon the acquisition of property or for the construction of work not contemplated in the report and recommendation, with accompanying plans and specifications, originally adopted in accordance with the provisions of section 19. In such event, the same proceedings for the preparation and adoption or rejection of the report and recommendation as to the acquisition of such additional property or construction of such additional work, and in case of the adoption of such report and recommendation, the levying and collection of the assessment or assessments to meet the cost thereof, shall be taken in connection with the property and work to be acquired or constructed as hereby provided shall be taken in connection with the acquisition or construction of the property or work contemplated by the original project.

In the event the cost of any unit is less than the funds collected therefor, the excess shall be held and used for the benefit of such unit only and shall be applied to the bond fund of such unit, if any, and if there be no bond fund then to the maintenance and operation of such unit. (Stats. 1927, p. 1252.)

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure*, 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Call of Tax or Assessment, Deduction of Net Revenue.

SEC. 23½. Upon the call of any tax or assessment, or portion thereof, hereunder the board of directors shall ascertain the total net revenue which has been derived by the district from the generation of electric power since the call of the last preceding tax or assessment, or portion thereof, and from the tax or assessment then called upon each tract of land which has been assessed for the costs of the properties comprising the portion of the project to be used for the generation of electric energy, there shall be deducted by the county treasurer of each county in which lands of the district are situated, an amount equal to such proportion of the total net revenue so ascertained to have been derived from the generation of electric energy, as the portion of such costs assessed under section 19 hereof against such tract bears to the total of such costs. In making such deduction, fractions of cents upon each such tract shall be disregarded and no error in the computation of such deduction shall invalidate any such call. (Stats. 1927, p. 1253.)

## BONDS

### Bonds, When and in What Manner and Form Issued and How Validated, Certified, Sold, Paid and Proceeds Accounted for.

SEC. 24. Whenever in any water storage district any assessment has been levied and assessed upon the lands of said district and remains unpaid in whole or in part, and, in the judgment and opinion of the board of directors of said district, it shall be for the best interest of the district or the landowners therein to issue bonds for the purpose of obtaining money to pay the costs of the proposed project, the indebtedness of the district, or any other lawful charge, or when a petition signed by the owners of more than one-fourth in assessed value of the lands of the district, requesting it is filed with the secretary of said board, the board of directors of such district shall by order entered upon the records of said board order a special election to be held in said district, at which special election shall be submitted to the owners of assessed land in said district the question whether or not bonds of said district shall be issued in an amount equal to the amount of such assessment, or the part of such assessment remaining unpaid, which said amount shall be entered by said board of directors in its records and stated by them in the order for such special election.

The notice of such special election must state in addition to other statements required to be made therein, the aggregate face value of bonds proposed to be issued. Only owners of lands which have been assessed as provided herein shall be qualified to vote at such election. Such election shall be conducted, save and except as in this section otherwise specifically provided, in accordance with the provisions of this act relating to other elections in the district.

The ballots cast at such election shall contain the words "Bonds—Yes" or the words "Bonds—No." A list of the ballots cast shall be made by the board of election containing the name of each voter who has voted at such election, and if the ballot be cast by proxy also the name of the person casting it, and the number of votes cast by each voter. At the close of the polls the board of election shall at once proceed to canvass the votes and declare the result and shall deliver a certificate showing such result and the number of votes cast for and against the issuing of such bonds to the county clerk of the county wherein the office of the district is situated, and shall deliver a duplicate thereof to the board of directors of the district, and shall also deliver to the said county clerk all ballots cast at such election within said county and all documents and papers used at such election, and except as in this section specifically provided the provisions of this act with reference to all matters pertaining to elections shall govern and control. The county clerks of the respective counties shall immediately upon receipt of the ballots, papers, and documents from the board of election certify to the board of directors at its office a statement of the result of said election held in each of said counties with a statement of the number of votes for and in favor of the proposition of "Bonds—Yes" and opposed "Bonds—No." The board of directors shall thereupon in a certificate in writing recorded in their minutes declare that the proposal to issue bonds has carried or has been defeated, and stating therein the vote cast throughout the entire district, and a duplicate of such certificate shall be immediately transmitted to the state engineer.

If a majority of the votes cast at such election are in favor of the issuance of bonds, the board of directors of the district shall cause bonds in the amount stated in the order for the election to be executed and delivered, together with the assessment list segregated as to counties within said district, to the treasurer of said district. Said bonds shall be of the denomination of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dolars each; they shall be signed by the president of the board of directors of the district and attested by the treasurer of said district, and shall be numbered consecutively in order of their maturity, and shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed six and one-half per cent per annum payable semiannually on the first day of January and the first day of July in each year at the office of said treasurer, and at any other place within the United States which may be designated by said board, upon the presentation of the proper coupons therefor. Coupons for each installment of interest shall be attached to said bonds and shall bear the facsimile signature of the treasurer of said district. The principal of said bonds shall be made payable on the first day of July, or the first day of January, and in such years as the directors may prescribe. Said bonds shall be payable serially within forty years from their date in the manner following, to wit:

(1) Not less than ten per centum of the aggregate face value of such bonds issued shall be payable within fifteen years from their date;

(2) Not less than two and one-half per centum of the aggregate face value of such bonds remaining unpaid at the end of fifteen years shall be payable each year beginning with the sixteenth year from their date, until the whole amount of said bonds has been paid.

Said bonds shall be substantially in the following form:

United States of America
State of California
(Name) water storage district

No.-------- $-------

(Name) water storage district for value received hereby acknowledges itself indebted to and promises to pay to the holder hereof at the office of the treasurer of said district, at (place) in the State of California, on the first day of-------------the sum of $--------in gold coin of the United States of America, with interest thereon in like gold coin from date hereof until paid, at the rate of----------- per cent per annum, payable at the office of said treasurer, or at (other designated places), semiannually on the first day of January and the first day of July in each year on presentation and surrender of the interest coupons hereto attached. This bond is one of a series of --------bonds of like tenor and effect (except as to denomination and maturity), numbered from--------to--------inclusive amounting in the aggregate to---------------dollars, issued in accordance with the provisions of an act known as "California water storage district act," duly passed and adopted (stating when) and of the laws of the State of California, pursuant to an election held in said water storage district on the--------day of--------authorizing its issuance, and based upon and secured by an assessment levied on the lands in said district, and filed in the office of the county treasurer of the county (or counties) of-------------on the-------------day of-------------, and the said water storage district does hereby certify and declare that said election was duly called and held upon due notice, and the result thereof was duly canvassed and ascertained, in pursuance of and in strict conformity with the laws of the State of California applicable thereto, and that all the acts and conditions and things required by law to be done, precedent to and in the issue of said bonds have been done and have been performed in regular and in due form and in strict accordance with the provisions of the law authorizing the issuance of water storage district bonds.

In testimony whereof, the said district, by its board of directors, has caused this bond to be signed by the president of said board and attested by the treasurer of said district, with the official seal of said district affixed this----------day of-------------.

----------------------------
President of said board.

Attest: -------------------
Treasurer.

And the interest coupons may be substantially in the following form:

No.-------- $-------

The treasurer of (name) water storage district, California, will pay to the holder hereof on the---------------day of---------------, at his office at (place in the State of California, or at designated places), the sum of $----------, in gold coin of the United States, out of the funds of (name) water storage district for interest on bond of said district numbered__________.

______________________________
Treasurer.

The treasurer of said district shall place the bonds prepared pursuant to this act to the credit of the district. Thereafter when directed by resolution of the board of directors of the district, the treasurer shall sell the whole or any designated number of said bonds for the best price obtainable, but in no event for less than ninety per cent of the face value of said bonds and the accrued interest thereon. Before making a sale of said bonds, notice shall be given by the said treasurer by publication at least once a week for two successive weeks in the county in which the office of said district is located, that he will sell a specified amount of said bonds, and stating the day, hour, and place of such sale, and asking sealed proposals for the purchase of said bonds, or any part thereof. At the time appointed said treasurer shall open the bids and award the bonds to the highest responsible bidder. The treasurer upon written request of a majority of the directors must reject any or all bids. Any sale by the treasurer and delivery of the bonds thereunder shall be conclusive evidence in favor of the purchaser and all subsequent holders of the bonds that such sale was made upon due authority and notice. The proceeds of sale of said bonds shall be placed in the treasuries of the respective counties in which land included in the district is situate to the amount of the unpaid assessment in each county and credited to the bond fund of the district, and a proper record of such transaction shall be made upon the books of said treasurer. At any time within thirty days after the issue of any bonds as the result of such election an action may be commenced in the superior court of any said counties by the board of directors of said water storage district in the name of the district as plaintiff, and the defendants shall be described as "all persons claiming any interest in any lands within the said (name) water storage district," to have it determined that said bonds are a legal obligation of such water storage district, and in the event no such action is brought then the same may be commenced by any landowner in the district within sixty days after the expiration of the period within which said action might have been brought by the board of directors. It shall be sufficient to describe said lands as all lands in the district (naming it) without a more specific description. The summons shall be published once a week for two successive weeks in the county where the action is pending. Within thirty days after the first publication of summons any owner of land in such district or any person interested may appear and answer the complaint, which answer shall set forth the facts relied upon to show the invalidity of said bonds. The default of all defendants not so appearing may be entered. Such action shall be given precedence in hearing and trial over all other civil actions in such court, and judgment rendered declaring such matter so contested either valid or invalid. Any party not in default may have the right to appeal to the supreme court within thirty days after the entry of judgment. Judgment for the plaintiff in such proceedings shall be considered as a judgment in rem and shall be conclusive against said district and against all lands therein, and all owners thereof and other interested persons.

All moneys collected by a county treasurer upon any assessment upon which bonds shall have been issued, including all moneys derived from sale of land for delinquent installments, or from redemption thereof, or from sale of lands brought by such treasurer at any such sale as trustee of the bond fund of the district shall be by such treasurer forthwith paid into the county treasury of the county from which the same arose to the credit of the bond fund of such water storage district, and shall be used exclusively for the payment of principal and interest of said bonds issued on such assessment.

Whenever the board of directors shall by resolution declare that it deems it desirable that any contemplated or outstanding bonds of a water storage district organized under this act, including any bonds of such district authorized but not sold, shall be made available for the purpose provided for in section 7 of an act of the Legislature of the State of California entitled "An act relating to bonds of irrigation districts, providing under what circumstances such bonds shall be legal investments for funds of banks, insurance companies, and trust companies, trust funds, state school funds and any money or funds which may now or hereafter be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school districts or municipalities, and providing under what circumstances the use of bonds of irrigation districts as security for the performance of any act may be authorized," approved June 13, 1913, as amended, the said board of directors shall thereupon file a certified copy of such resolution with the commission created by, and provided for in said act of June 13, 1913, which Commission, and the state controller in connection therewith, are hereby given the same power and authority in respect of the investigation and certification of bonds issued under this act as is given to them in respect of the investigation and certification of irrigation district bonds by said act, as amended, except as the same may be limited by, or inconsistent with, any provision of this act, and bonds of water storage districts provided for in this act which have been so investigated and certified and by authority of such investigation and certification are declared to be legal investments for the purposes stated in said act of June 13, 1913, as amended, may be lawfully purchased, or received in pledge for loans by savings banks, trust companies, insurance companies, guardians, executors, administrators, and special administrators, or by any public officer or officers of this state or of any county, city, or city and county, or other municipal or corporate body within this state having or holding funds which they are allowed by law to invest or loan; provided, however, that where said irrigation district bond commission has passed upon one issue of bonds of districts formed hereunder, that all subsequent issues of said districts shall be submitted to said commission as in said act provided.

The lien of any unpaid assessment upon which bonds shall have been issued shall continue until all said bonds shall have been paid in full, and if for any reason any part of the principal or interest of said bonds shall remain unpaid after enforcement of said assessment as in this act provided, the board of directors shall order an additional or supplemental assessment to be made as provided in this act sufficient to pay such unpaid principal and interest; which additional or supplemental assessment shall be enforced and collected in the same manner as the original assessment.

If any district having authorized the issuance of a series of bonds shall issue an additional series of bonds based on another assessment, the dates of maturity of such additional series of bonds shall be such that the latest maturities thereof shall not exceed fifty years and the earliest maturity of bonds of such additional series shall be later than the latest maturity of bonds of any earlier series. All provisions of this section relative to the original issue of bonds shall apply to such additional series of bonds.

Upon a sale of any of the bonds provided herein the treasurer of the district is hereby authorized to accept in payment for said bonds, either in whole or in part, outstanding warrants of such district at their face value, together with the accrued interest thereon.

Where bonds of the district have been authorized to be issued on such assessments all unpaid assessments shall bear interest at the rate of seven per cent per annum from the date of the bonds issued thereon until such bonds shall have been fully paid and discharged, and the interest due at any time on said unpaid assessments may be called without calling any installment of the said assessment. The word installment as used in this section shall be construed as applying to interest as well as to principal as the case may be.

At least ninety days before any interest date of the bonds, the treasurer of the district shall certify to the county treasurer of each county in which lands of the district are situated an estimate of the amount of money and the percentage of the assessment together with the interest thereon, or only of the interest, necessary to pay interest and principal or the interest maturing on such interest date after crediting thereon the funds in the treasury applicable to the payment thereof to be collected by such county treasurer, and shall add thereto fifteen per cent of such aggregate sum to cover possible delinquencies, and each said county treasurer shall thereupon cause to be published, once a week for two successive weeks in the county of which he is county treasurer, a notice substantially in the following form:

(Name of water storage district.) Notice is hereby given that an installment of assessment (describing it) or (amount or proportion thereof including interest thereon or only for interest) is payable within thirty days from date by all assessed landowners of said district in the county of (name of county) to the treasurer of said county. All or any part of said installment of interest which remains unpaid on the (day fixed) will be delinquent, together with accrued interest thereon, with ten per cent of such installment and interest added as penalty.

Dated______________________________

(Signed)____________________

Treasurer of_________________County.

If no newspaper is published in said county, such publication shall be made in a newspaper published in an adjoining county. If any part of such installment or any interest thereon shall remain unpaid at the expiration of thirty days from the date of said notice, it shall become delinquent and ten per cent of the unpaid amount of said installment and interest shall be added thereto and collected by said county treasurer. When any installment shall have become delinquent, said treasurer shall, within ten days, publish in said county once a week for two successive weeks a notice containing a description of each parcel of land assessed in the district in said county wherein such installment is delinquent, as such description appears on the assessment list, the name of the person to whom it is assessed, to unknown owners, if such is the fact; the amount of the installment delinquent on such parcel, the amount of interest thereon reckoned to the day of sale, the amount of said ten per cent penalty thereon, and a notice that each of said parcels will be sold at public auction by said county treasurer in front of the courthouse of said county, at a specified day and hour, which shall not be less than thirty nor more than sixty days from the date of delinquency, to pay said delinquent installment, with said accrued interest and penalty. At the time stated in said notice, the county treasurer shall sell each parcel of land described in said notice to the highest bidder, unless prior thereto he shall have received payment in full of said delinquent installment, together with interest and penalty. No bid for any parcel shall be accepted less than the aggregate sum then due on said installment thereon with interest and penalty, and such sale shall be made for cash, except the treasurer may receive from any purchaser at their face value in lieu of cash bonds of said district or their interest coupons, issued on said assessment and then matured or to mature within sixty days after such sale. Any bond or coupon so received in payment shall be by the county treasurer forthwith canceled and filed in the office of the treasurer of the district. If the entire amount of such bond or coupon tendered in payment shall not be required to complete payment of the purchase money, the county treasurer shall endorse thereon as paid the amount of such purchase money credited thereon. If no bid is made for any parcel at such sale equal to the amount of the installment delinquent thereon, with interest and penalty, the county treasurer shall bid in and sell said parcel to himself and his successors in office, as trustee of the bond fund of said district, as purchaser, for the amount of said installment, interest, and penalty. The county treasurer shall execute to each purchaser, including himself as trustee a certificate of sale, and shall record a duplicate in the county recorder's office. Any person interested in the said property may redeem the same at any time within three years after the date of sale by paying to the county treasurer for such purpose a sum equal to the purchase price stated in the certificate, with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per cent per annum from the date of sale to such redemption. If no redemption shall be made within three years, the said county treasurer upon demand and surrender of such certificate of purchase, shall execute to the purchaser, his heirs or assigns, a deed of conveyance of the parcel of land described in such certificate, which deed shall convey to the grantee therein named the said land free and clear of all encumbrances, except state, county and municipal taxes, assessments or taxes levied or assessed by or under statutory authority, and any water storage district assessment, or portion thereof, remaining unpaid at the date of said sale each installment whereof may be called and collected as herein provided, except that no parcel sold and conveyed to the district shall thereafter be subject to sale by the county treasurer for delinquent installments. Every deed by a county treasurer purporting to be executed under this section shall be prima facie evidence of the truth of the matters therein recited, and of ownership by the grantee of the lands therein described. The county treasurer of each county shall credit to the bond fund of the district all moneys collected by him by sale or otherwise, upon assessments against which bonds shall have been issued, including interest and penalties, and he shall likewise credit to said fund the amounts of purchase money paid in bonds or coupons on sales made under said assessment. Each county treasurer shall charge to the general fund of the district, or to the bond fund if he has no money to the credit of the general fund, the expense of publication of notices and of recording certificates of sale, and shall notify the treasurer of the district thereof. The county treasurer shall transmit to the treasurer of the district all canceled bonds and coupons received in payment on any delinquent sale, and a memorandum of all sums endorsed as paid upon account of purchase money on any bonds or coupons, specifying the same. All moneys collected by any county treasurer upon account of an assessment on which bonds shall not have been issued shall be similarly accounted for to the treasurer of the district, and shall be credited to the general fund of the district. Any parcel of land bid in and purchased by any county treasurer as aforesaid, as trustee of the bond fund of the district, may be sold and conveyed by him or his successor in office at any time after the expiration of said redemption period of three years, at public or private sale and with or without notice, to any person paying him the amount for which said parcel was bid in by said treasurer at delinquent sale, with interest thereon at the rate of seven per cent per annum, compounded yearly, from the date of said delinquent sale, and also the amount of all subsequent installments then delinquent, with accrued interest and penalties thereon. Such payment may be made either in cash or in matured bonds and coupons issued on said assessment, taken at their face value, and such treasurer shall execute a deed to such purchaser upon such sale, conveying said property free of encumbrances, except as hereinbefore provided for deeds where no redemption is made. If any land so held by a county treasurer as trustee of the bond fund of a district shall remain unsold after the final installment of the assessment shall have been collected by payment or sale, then each such treasurer shall sell all said land so held by him at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, notice of which sale shall be given by publication once a week for two successive weeks in some newspaper published in the county in which said land is situated, and shall deposit the proceeds of such sale in the treasury of the county to the credit of the bond fund of the district. Any balance remaining in such bond fund, after payment in full of the principal and interest of all outstanding bonds of the district, shall be by the treasurer transferred to the general fund of the district. The county treasurer of each of the several counties shall report all transactions of delinquencies and sales to the treasurer of the district who shall keep a record thereof in the office of the district. (Stats. 1927, p. 1253.)

## POWERS AND DUTIES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### General Powers.

SEC. 25. The board of directors shall have the power and it shall be its duty to manage and conduct the business and affairs of the district; to adopt a seal; to make and execute all necessary contracts; to employ and appoint such agents, officers, and employees as may be required, and prescribe their duties. The board and its agents shall have the right to enter upon any lands to make surveys, locate works, or for any other necessary and lawful purpose. The board shall have the power to acquire, construct, maintain, improve, and operate the necessary dams, reservoirs, canals, and works for the storage and distribution of water, and any drainage or reclamation works connected therewith, and to provide for the generation and distribution of hydroelectric energy incidental to such storage and distribution and shall have the power to sell, distribute, or otherwise dispose of, such water, water rights, and hydro-electric energy as may not be necessary for the uses and purposes of said district. The board shall also have the right to acquire by purchase, lease, contract, condemnation or other legal means, all lands, waters, water rights, or any use thereof or interest therein, and any other property or rights by it deemed necessary for the construction, maintenance, improvement, or operation of the works or the carrying out of the project of the district, whether the same be in this or another state or foreign nation, including the property and rights of private owners even though already devoted to a public use, and stocks of other corporations, domestic or foreign, and may give in payment therefor bonds of such district upon such terms and conditions as the board of directors may deem best, but private property devoted to the use of one water storage district or any irrigation district or other district or to any city or county may not be taken by any water storage district; provided, before any purchase of property located in the district at a price exceeding five hundred thousand dollars, the price shall be approved by the state engineer, who shall give his approval if he finds the price not excessive, and otherwise refuse it; and provided, further, that no bonds shall be so used at a valuation less than ninety per cent of the face value of the same and the accrued interest thereon. Said board may also enter into, and do any acts necessary or proper for the performance of, any agreement with the United States or with any state, county, district, public corporation, or municipality of any kind, for a purpose appertaining to or beneficial to the project of the district, and may acquire the right to store water in any reservoir, or to carry water through any canal, ditch, or conduit within or without this state not owned or controlled by the district and may grant to the owner or lessee of a right to the use of any water permission to store such water in any reservoir of the district or to carry such water through any canal, ditch, or conduit of the district. The said board is hereby authorized and empowered to take conveyances, leases, contracts, or other assurances for all property acquired by it under the provisions of this act, in the name of such district, to and for the uses and purposes herein expressed, and to institute and maintain any and all actions and proceedings, suits at law, or in equity necessary or proper in order to fully carry out the provisions of this act, or to enforce, maintain, protect or preserve any and all rights, privileges, and immunities created by this act or acquired in pursuance thereof. All contracts and other documents executed by the board shall be signed by the president and by the secretary. And in all actions, suits or proceedings, the said board may sue, appear, and defend in person or by attorneys, and in the name of such district. The board of directors shall have power whenever it deems it necessary for its own guidance or for the best interests of the district to submit any question or proposition relating to the construction, maintenance, improvement, or operation of the works or the carrying out of the project of the district, to the qualified voters of the district at any general election or at a special election called for the purpose, which election shall be in all respects conducted as is provided for other elections in the district. The said board shall have power generally to perform all such acts as may be necessary to fully carry out the purposes of this act. (Stats. 1927, p. 1262.)

*Baldwin* vs. *Railroad Com.*, 206 Cal. 581, 275 Pac. 425.

### Power of Condemnation.

SEC. 26. The board of directors shall have the right and power to acquire by condemnation all lands, waters, water rights, or any use thereof or interest therein, and any other property or rights by it deemed necessary for the construction, maintenance, improvement, and operation of the works, or the carrying out of the project of the district. In case of condemnation proceedings the board shall proceed in the name of the district under the provisions of section 14 of article one as amended of the constitution of the State of California, and title seven, part three of the Code of Civil Procedure of California and all pleadings, proceedings, and process in said title provided shall be applicable to the condemnation proceeding hereunder.

### Construction and Maintenance of Works.

SEC. 27. The board of directors shall proceed to carry out the project of the district in accordance with the plans and specifications of the duly approved and adopted report of said board. Before making any contract for the construction of any works in carrying out said project, or for the subsequent improvement thereof, said board shall advertise for bids. When such work is to be done said board shall give notice by publication thereof in the county in which the office of the board is located once a week for four consecutive weeks, calling for bids for the same. If less than the whole work provided for in said plans and specifications is to be done, the portion to be done must be particularly described in such notice. Said notice shall set forth that plans and specifications of the work to be done can be seen at the office of the board, and that the board will receive sealed proposals therefor, and that the contract will be let to the lowest responsible bidder, stating the time and place for opening said proposals, which, at the time and place appointed, shall be opened in public; and as convenient thereafter the board shall let said work either in portions or as a whole, to the lowest responsible bidder; or it may reject any or all bids and readvertise for proposals or may proceed to construct the work under its own superintendency; provided, that in case of emergency or urgent necessity the board of directors, by unanimous vote of those present at any regular or special meeting, may award contracts without advertising for bids, but the amount of any contract so awarded shall not exceed ten thousand dollars. Contracts for the purchase of materials only shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; provided, however, that the board may reject any or all bids and thereafter either readvertise for bids, or solicit offers from not less than three responsible persons to furnish materials, and upon receipt of an offer or offers for a less price than that specified in the lowest rejected bid enter into a contract for the furnishing of the materials with the person who so offers to furnish the same at the lowest price. Any person or persons, to whom a contract may be awarded shall enter into a bond, with good and sufficient sureties, to be approved by the board, payable to said district for its use, for twenty-five per cent of the amount of the contract price, conditioned for the full and faithful performance of said contract. The work shall be done under the direction and to the satisfaction of, and be approved by the board. (Stats. 1927, p. 1263.)

#### Payment of Claims.

SEC. 28. All claims against the district shall be paid by warrants of said district. To provide a fund for that purpose the board of directors may from time to time draw from the general fund deposited and kept to the credit of the district in the office of the county treasurer of a county having funds belonging to the district in his possession such sums as may be necessary for said purpose, which said sums shall be deposited with the treasurer of the district and paid out by him upon warrants of the district, and he shall report to the board of directors in writing at its regular meeting in each month the amount of money in the district treasury and the amount of receipts and the amount and items of expenditures for the month preceding, which said report shall be verified and filed with the secretary of the board. (Stats. 1923, p. 961.)

#### Reports to State Engineer of Work Done.

SEC. 29. During the construction of any works in carrying out the project of any water storage district the board of directors of such district shall, within one week after each regular meeting of said board, forward to the state engineer a report of the progress of such construction together with a statement of the amount, or amounts, paid for the doing of such work. The board of directors at their regular monthly meeting in January of each year shall render and immediately thereafter cause to be published in the county where the office of said board is situated at least once a week for two successive weeks a verified statement of the financial condition of the district, showing particularly the receipts and disbursements of the last preceding year, together with the source of such receipts and purpose of such disbursements. Immediately after the publication of said statement the board of directors shall cause a copy thereof accompanied by a report stating the progress of the work under construction and the general condition of the project and whether or not the same is being successfully and satisfactorily carried out, and any other matter which the board may deem proper, to be filed with the state engineer, who shall examine said statement and report and make to the board of directors such recommendations and comments as he may deem proper and may publish said recommendations and comments in such manner as may be deemed advisable. Said state engineer may at any time make or cause to be made an examination of the affairs of any water storage district within the state or call upon the board of directors of such district for such information as he may desire, and may make and publish such report thereon as he may deem advisable.

The state engineer may prescribe the form of all reports and accounts in this section provided for and may require such methods of accounting and itemization as shall in his judgment tend to the uniformity of reports and accounting. Such requirements of the state engineer may from time to time be changed by him. The records of the board including copies of the project, copies of assessment rolls and reports to the state engineer shall be deemed to be public records and shall be kept in the office of the board and open to inspection during office hours. (Stats. 1927, p. 1264.)

### Right of Way Privileges.

SEC. 30. The board of directors shall have power to construct the said works across or intersecting any stream of water, water-course, street, avenue, highway, railway, canal, ditch, or flume, in such manner as to afford security for life and property; but said board shall restore the same, when so crossed or intersected, to its former state as near as may be, or in a sufficient manner not to have impaired unnecessarily its usefulness; and every company whose railroad shall be intersected or crossed by said works shall unite with said board in forming said intersections and crossings, and grant the privileges aforesaid; and if such railroad company and said board, or the owners and controllers of said property, thing, or franchise to be so crossed, can not agree upon the amount to be paid therefor, or the points or the matter of said crossings or intersections, the same shall be ascertained and determined in all respects as is herein provided in respect to the taking of land. The right of way is hereby given, dedicated, and set apart for the location, construction, and maintenance of said works over and through any of the lands which are now or may be the property of this state; and also there is given, dedicated, and set apart, for the uses and purposes aforesaid, all waters and water rights belonging to this state within the district.

### Compensation of Officers.

SEC. 31. The members of the board of directors when sitting as a board or acting under the orders of the board, shall each receive not to exceed ten dollars per day and ten cents per mile for each mile actually traveled from his place of residence to the office of the board, and actual and necessary expenses paid while engaged in official business under the order of the board. The board shall fix the compensation to be paid to all other officers and employees named in this act, to be paid out of the treasury of the district, except as herein otherwise provided.

### Officers Not to Be Interested in Contracts.

SEC. 32. No director or any other officer named in this act shall in any manner be interested, directly or indirectly, in any construction or supply contract awarded or to be awarded by the board, or in the profits to be derived therefrom, but no other character of contract shall be invalid because of interest on the part of a director or officer, unless such director or officer participate in or influence the making or authorization of such contract on behalf of the district; and for any violation of this provision, such officer shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and conviction shall work a forfeiture of his office, and he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisoment. (Stats. 1929, p. 401.)

### Incurring Indebtedness.

SEC. 33. The board of directors or other officers of the district shall have no power to incur any debt or liability whatever, either by issuing bonds or otherwise, in excess of the express provisions of this act; and any debt or liability incurred in excess of such provisions shall be and remain absolutely void; provided, that nothing contained in this section shall be construed as limiting the right of the board to enter into any contract for the use of or lease for any lands, water, water-rights, or other property, as in this act provided, and by such lease or contract to bind the district for the payment of the rental or consideration specified in such lease or contract.

### Distribution of Water Under Certain Conditions.

SEC. 34. The board of directors shall have the power and it shall be its duty to establish equitable by-laws, rules and regulations for the distribution and use of water among the owners of lands within the district, which by-laws, rules and regulations shall recognize and shall be subject to such priorities in the right to water between the different consumers of the water as may legally exist. In the event that the volume of water under the control of any water storage district is in any season so diminished below normal, by reason of water shortage or otherwise, as to make it probable that all the lands within such district can not receive the full amount of water which they may need and to which they would otherwise be entitled, such deficiency shall be borne ratably by all the lands within such district except in so far as priorities in the right to water as between different lands may prevent, and the board of directors shall have the power to make rules and regulations to provide for so distributing the burden of such deficiency and also for the most economical and efficient use of the water which is or probably will be available. (Stats. 1927, p. 1265.)

## GENERAL ELECTIONS

### Establishment of Precincts.

SEC. 35. The board of directors of a water storage district shall establish a convenient number of election precincts in the district and define the boundaries thereof and at least one such precinct must be established for each division of the district, and said board whenever it is deemed advisable for the best interests of the district and the convenience of the voters may at any time, but not less than sixty days before an election to be held in the district, change the boundaries of any such election precinct, which changes when made must be entered upon the minutes of the board.

After any such district shall have adopted its project, the state engineer shall, not less than sixty days prior to the next general election thereafter to be held in said district, but not otherwise, redivision the said district by dividing the same into the same number of divisions into which the said district had heretofore been divided, but changing the basis of said divisions and the boundaries thereof so that said divisions shall be as nearly equal as to the number of landowners entitled to vote therein as may be conveniently possible. Said order of the state engineer shall be filed in the office of said state engineer, and a copy thereof certified by said state engineer filed in the office of the secretary of said district. Thereafter, said board of directors shall at its next regular meeting establish a convenient number of election precincts in each of said new divisions and no precinct shall include any lands situate in more than one of said divisions. The directors theretofore in office at the time said new divisions are established shall continue to hold for the divisions from which they were elected until the expiration of the terms for which said directors were elected, but their successors, and the successors of each of them, shall be elected from said new divisions in accordance with the provisions of this section. (Stats. 1929, p. 402.)

### Qualification of Voters.

SEC. 36. Only the holders of title or evidence of title to lands situated within the district shall be entitled to vote at a general election, and every such holder of title or evidence of title shall be entitled to vote, in person or as hereinafter provided, in each precinct in which any of the lands so owned by him are situated and to cast one vote for each one hundred dollars', or fraction thereof, worth of land in said precinct so owned by him. Each male or female voter over the age of twenty-one years shall be entitled to vote in person or by proxy. Any guardian, administrator, or executor, of a person or estate owning land within the district shall be considered the holder of title or evidence of title to such lands for the purposes of this act, where the owner in fee is not entitled to vote. Any corporation holding title or evidence of title to lands within the district shall be entitled to vote as such landowner through any officer or agent thereunto duly authorized in writing under the seal of the corporation. Entrymen upon public lands situated within the district shall be considered as the holders of title or evidence of title to such lands for the purposes of this act. No person shall vote by proxy unless his authority to cast such vote shall be evidenced by an instrument in writing duly acknowledged and certified in the same manner as grants of real property and filed with the board of election. (Stats. 1923, p. 962.)

### Elections, When Held; Officers to Be Elected.

SEC. 37. An election, which shall be known as the general water storage district election, shall be held in each water storage district on the first Wednesday in February in each odd-numbered year, at which a successor shall be chosen to each officer whose term shall expire in March next thereafter. The person receiving the highest number of votes for each office to be filled at such election shall be elected thereto. The term of office of each elective officer of the district elected after the election on organization provided for in section 7 of this act shall be four years, or until his successor is elected and has qualified.

### Notice of Election; Appointment of Election Officers.

Sec. 38. Not less than twenty-four days before a general election held under this act, the secretary of the board of directors shall give notice of such election by causing a notice thereof to be published once a week for three successive weeks in each county in which any land in the district is situated and by causing notices thereof to be posted in the office of the board and in three public places in each election precinct, such notices stating the time of holding the election, and the polling place of each precinct. Affidavits of the publication and posting of such notices must be filed with the county clerk of each county in the district, together with a copy of the order calling the election, certified by the president of the board of directors, and duplicates filed with the board of directors. Prior to the election, the board must appoint for each precinct, from the voters thereof, one inspector and two judges, who shall constitute a board of election for such precinct. If the board fail to appoint a board of election, or the members appointed do not attend at the opening of the polls on the morning of election, the voters of the precinct present at that hour may appoint the board, or supply the place of an absent member thereof. The board of directors must by order made more than twenty-four days before the time for election designate a convenient place within each precinct as the polling places of such precinct. (Stats. 1927, p. 1266.)

### Nominating Petitions.

Sec. 39. Not less than ten days before the election, any ten or more qualified voters in any division of the district may file with the board of directors a petition, requesting that certain persons, specified in such petition, be placed on the ballot as candidates for the office named in the petition. The names proposed by the various petitions so filed, and no others, shall be printed on the ballots. But there shall be sufficient blank spaces left in which voters may write other names if they so desire. The petitions shall be preserved in the office of the secretary of the district.

### Election Officers, Powers and Duties of.

Sec. 40. The inspector is chairman of the election board and may administer all oaths required in the process of an election; and appoint judges if, during the progress of the election, any judge ceases to act. Any member of the board of election may administer and certify oaths required to be administered during the progress of an election. Before opening the polls, each member of the board must take and subscribe an oath to faithfully perform the duties imposed upon him by law. Any voter of the precinct may administer and certify such oath. The polls must be opened at six a.m. on the morning of the election, and be kept open until seven p.m., when the same must be closed. (Stats. 1929, p. 402.)

### Ballots and Manner of Voting.

SEC. 41. The ballots used at the election shall be provided by the board of directors, and one of the judges of the election shall deliver to each of the qualified voters the number of ballots to which he is entitled as provided in this act. Each ballot shall have a perforated tab which shall be marked with the initials of a member of the board of election of the precinct immediately before being handed to the voter. The perforated tab shall be torn from the ballot by the inspector immediately before the voted ballot is placed in the ballot box, and shall be preserved by him and sent with the ballots to the secretary of the board of directors.

The ballots shall have printed on them the names of all candidates whose names have been filed as provided in this act, with a voting square behind each name; provided, that the ballots in each division of the district shall have on them names of persons to be voted for as director to represent that division only, and no director shall be elected by the district at large. The names shall be arranged in groups alphabetically, under the designation of the office for which each person named is a candidate. Each voter shall be supplied with one ballot for each one hundred votes or fraction thereof to which he is entitled; and each ballot cast shall contain the number of votes it represents, in accordance with the provisions of this act which number shall be written or stamped upon it by an election officer and initialed by him when handed to the voter. A list shall be kept by the election board, containing the names of each voter (and if the ballot be cast by proxy also the name of the person casting it) who has voted at such election and the number of votes cast by such voter. (Stats. 1927, p. 1266.)

### Voting and Counting of Votes.

SEC. 42. Voting may commence as soon as the polls are opened, and may be continued during all the time the polls remain opened, and shall be conducted as nearly as practicable in accordance with the provisions of the general election laws of this state. As soon as all votes are countel, a certificate shall be drawn upon each of the papers containing the poll lists and tallies, or attached thereto, stating the number of votes each one voted for has received, and designating the office to fill which he was voted for, which number shall be written in figures and in words at full length. Each certificate shall be signed by a judge and the inspector. One of said certificates, with the poll list and the tally paper to which it is attached, shall be retained by the inspector, and preserved by him at least six months. The ballots shall be strung upon a cord or thread by the inspector, during the counting thereof, in the order in which they are entered upon the tally list by the judges; and said ballots, together with the other of said certificates, with the poll list and tally paper to which it is attached, shall be sealed by the inspector in the presence of the judges and indorsed "Election returns (naming the precinct) precinct," and be directed to the secretary of the board of directors, and shall be immediately delivered by the inspector, or by some other safe and responsible carrier designated by said inspector, to said secretary, and the ballots shall be kept unopened for at least six months; and if any qualified voter of the district be of the opinion that the vote of any precinct has not been correctly counted, he may appear on the day appointed for the board of directors to open and canvass the returns, and demand a recount of the vote of the precinct that is so claimed to have been incorrectly counted. No list, tally paper, or certificate returned from any election shall be set aside or rejected for want of form, if it can be satisfactorily understood.

### Canvass of Votes.

SEC. 43. The board of directors must meet at its usual place of meeting on the first Monday after each election to canvass the returns. If, at the time of meeting, the returns from each precinct in the district in which the polls were opened have been received, the board of directors must then and there proceed to canvass the returns; but if all the returns have not been received, the canvass must be postponed from day to day until all the returns have been received, or until six postponements have been had. The canvass must be made in public and by opening the returns and ascertaining the vote of the district for each person voted for, and declaring the result thereof.

### Statement of Results; Vacancy in Office, How Filled.

SEC. 44. The secretary of the board of directors must, as soon as the result is declared, enter in the records of such board a statement of such result, which statement must show: (a) the whole number of votes cast in the district, and in each division of the district; (b) the names of the persons voted for; (c) the office to fill which each person was voted for; (d) the number of votes given in each precinct to each of such persons; (e) the number of votes given in each division for the office of director. The board of directors must declare elected as director the person having the highest number of votes for that office in each division. The secretary must immediately make out and deliver to such persons certificates of election, signed by him, and authenticated with the seal of the district.

In case of a vacancy in the office of director, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the state engineer for the division in which the vacancy occurred. An officer appointed as above provided shall hold his office for the remainder of the unexpired term to fill which he is appointed, and until his successor is elected and qualified. (Stats. 1927, p. 1267.)

### Official Bonds.

SEC. 45. Within ten days after receiving their certificates of election herein provided for, said officers shall take and subscribe the official oath, and file the same in the office of the board of directors, and execute the bond hereinafter provided for. The treasurer of the district shall execute an official bond in the sum of fifty thousand dollars to be approved by the board of directors; provided, that the board may, if it shall be deemed advisable, fix the bond of the treasurer to suit the conditions of the district, the maximum amount thereof not to exceed fifty thousand dollars, and the minimum amount thereof not to be less than ten thousand dollars. Each member of the board of directors shall execute an official bond in the sum of five thousand dollars, which said bonds shall be approved by a judge of the superior court and shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the office of the board is situated, and filed with the secretary of said board; provided, however, that the official bonds of the first directors of any district may be approved by a judge of the superior court of any county in which any of the lands in the district are situated and may be recorded in the office of the county recorder of such county. All official bonds herein provided for shall be made payable to the proper water storage district and shall be in the form prescribed by law for the official bonds of county officers and the premiums thereon may be paid by the district; provided, that in case any district organized under this act is appointed fiscal agent of the United States or by the United States in connection with any federal reclamation project, each of said officers shall execute a further and additional official bond in such sum as the secretary of the interior may require, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office and the faithful discharge of the district of its duties as fiscal or other agent of the United States under any such appointment or authorization, and any such bond may be sued upon by the United States or any person injured by the failure of such officers of the district to fully, promptly, and completely perform their respective duties. (Stats. 1927, p. 1267.)

### If Election Not Held, Provision for Special Election.

SEC. 46. If an election is not held as herein provided, then upon the filing of a petition with the secretary of the board of directors of such district, signed by the owners of more than fifteen per cent of the total assessed valuation of the lands within the district, requesting that a special election be called for the election of such officers, the directors of such district shall thereupon call a special election thereof for the election of such officers, such election to be held within not less than fifteen, nor more than thirty days after the filing of such petition. (Stats. 1923, p. 963.)

### Beginning of Terms of Officers; Organization of Board of Directors.

SEC. 47. At noon of the first Tuesday in March next following their election, except as provided in section 12 of this act, the officers who shall have been elected at the preceding general district election shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices. On the first Tuesday in March next following each election, the directors shall meet and organize as a board, elect a president and appoint a secretary and a treasurer, who shall each hold office during the pleasure of the board. (Stats. 1927, p. 1268.)

### Removal of Officers.

SEC. 48. The holder of any elective office of any district may be removed or recalled at any time by the voters; provided, he has held his office at least six months. The procedure to effect such removal or recall shall be as follows: A petition demanding the election of a successor to the person sought to be removed shall be filed with the secretary of the board of directors of such district, which petition shall be signed by qualified voters constituting at least twenty-five per cent of the highest vote cast within such district for candidates for the office, the incumbent of which is sought to be removed, at the last general election in such district at which an incumbent of such office was elected, or, in the case of the removal of the incumbent of an office elected by a subdivision of such district, such petition shall be signed by a like percentage of qualified voters of such subdivision computed upon the total number of votes cast in such subdivision for all candidates for the office, the incumbent of which is sought to be removed, at the last general election in such subdivision at which an incumbent of such office was elected; and said petition shall contain a statement of the grounds on which the removal or recall is sought, which statement is intended solely for the information of the voters. Any insufficiency of form or substance in such statement shall in no wise affect the validity of the election and proceedings held thereunder. The signatures to the petition need not all be appended to one paper. Each signer shall add to his signature his place of residence, giving the precinct, and if within a town having named streets and numbered houses, street and number. Each such separate paper shall have attached thereto an affidavit made by a qualified voter of the district and sworn to before an officer competent to administer oaths, stating that the affiant circulated that particular paper and saw written the signatures appended thereto; and that according to the best information and belief of the affiant, each is the genuine signature of the person whose name purports to be thereunto subscribed and of a qualified voter of the district. Within ten days from the date of filing such petition, the secretary of the board shall examine and from the records of qualified voters ascertain whether or not said petition is signed by the requisite number of such qualified voters, and he shall attach to said petition his certificate showing the result of said examination. If by the said certificate the petition is shown to be insufficient, it may be supplemented within ten days from the date of such certificate, by the filing of additional papers, duplicates of the original petition except as to the names signed. The secretary shall, within ten days after such supplementing papers are filed, make like examination of a supplementing petition, and if a certificate shall show that all the names to such petition, including the supplemental papers, are still insufficient, no action shall be taken thereon; but the petition shall remain on file as a public record; and the failure to secure sufficient names shall be without prejudice to the filing later of an entirely new petition to the same effect. If the petition shall be found to be sufficient, the secretary shall submit the same to the board of directors without delay, whereupon the board shall forthwith cause a special election to be held within not less than thirty-five nor more than forty days after the date of the order calling such election, to determine whether the voters will recall such officer; provided, that if a general water storage district election is to occur within sixty days from the date of the order calling for such election, the board may in its discretion postpone the holding of such election to such general election or submit such recall election at any such general election for officers of such district occurring not less than thirty-five days after such order. If a vacancy occur in said office after a recall petition is filed, the election shall nevertheless proceed as in this section provided. One petition is sufficient to propose a removal and election of one or more elective officials. One election is competent for the removal and election of one or more elective officials. Nominations for any office under such recall election shall be made in the manner prescribed by section 39 of this act.

There shall be printed on the recall ballot, as to every officer whose recall is to be voted on thereat, the following question: "Shall (name of person against whom the recall petition is filed) be recalled from the office of (title of the office)?" following which question shall be the words "yes" and "no" on separate lines, with a blank space at the right of each, in which the voter shall indicate by stamping a cross (×) his vote for or against such recall. On such ballots, under each such question, there shall also be printed the names of those persons who have been nominated as candidates to succeed the person recalled, in case he shall be removed from office by said recall election; but no vote shall be counted for any candidate for said office unless the voter also voted on said question of the recall of the person sought to be recalled from said office. The name of the person against whom the petition is filed shall not appear on the ballot as a candidate for the office. If a majority of those voting on said question of the recall of any incumbent from office shall vote "no," said incumbent shall continue in said office. If a majority shall vote "yes," said incumbent shall thereupon be deemed removed from such office, upon the qualification of his successor. The election shall be conducted, canvass of all votes for candidates for said office shall be made, and the result declared in like manner as in a regular election within such district. If the vote at any such recall election shall recall the officer, then the candidate who has received the highest number of votes for the office shall be thereby declared elected for the remainder of the term. In case the person who received the highest number of votes shall fail to qualify within ten days after receiving the certificate of election, the office shall be deemed vacant and shall be filled according to law. If the vote at any such recall election shall not recall the officer, no further petition for the recall of such officer shall be filed before the expiration of six months from the date of such first recall election.

## SPECIAL ELECTIONS

### Special Elections, How Held.

SEC. 49. Notice of any special election to be held pursuant to the provisions of this act must be given by posting notices in three public places in each election precinct in the water storage district for at least twenty days, and also by publication of said notice once a week for three successive weeks in each county in which any land in said district is located. Such notice must specify the time and place of holding the election and the purpose thereof. Unless otherwise in this act expressly specified said election shall be held and the result thereof determined and declared as nearly as may be in accordance with the provisions of this act relating to general water storage district elections; *provided*, that no informalities in conducting such election shall invalidate the same if the election shall have been otherwise fairly conducted. (Stats. 1927, p. 1268.)

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**Contest of Elections.**

SEC. 50. Any election held under the provisions of this act may be contested by any person owning property within the district, or proposed district, liable to assessment. Such contest shall be brought in the superior court of any county in which some portion of the land within the district or proposed district is situated and shall be conducted in the manner provided for contests of election by title two of part three of the Code of Civil Procedure of California, except that in the case of a contest not involving the right of a person declared elected to an office to hold such office the directors of the district shall be made parties to the contest. The court having jurisdiction shall speedily try such contest and determine upon the hearing whether the election was fairly conducted and in substantial compliance with the requirements of this act and enter its judgment accordingly. Such contest must be brought within twenty days after the canvass of the vote and declaration of the result. The right of appeal is hereby given to either party to the record within thirty days from entry of judgment. The appeal must be heard and determined by the supreme court within sixty days from the time of the filing of the notice of appeal.

**Determination of Ownership and Value of Land.**

SEC. 51. For all purposes of this act relating to signing petitions and voting at any election, and for all other purposes when the question of title to or value of land claimed to be owned by a petitioner or voter is involved, the county assessment roll last equalized at the time of the election or filing of the petition, in each county wherein any such land is situated shall be sufficient evidence of ownership and value. If any parcel of land is assessed on any such assessment roll to unknown or fictitiously named owners, or to unnamed owners in addition to any owner or owners named thereon, said parcel of land shall be deemed for any of the purposes of this act to have but one owner in addition to any owner or owners whose true name or names may be purported to be given on such assessment roll. The holder of title or evidence of title to an undivided interest in any land affected by any of the provisions of this act may sign any petition or vote at any election provided for in this act, and such undivided interest shall be counted and valued as though it were a separate interest, and if the assessment roll shall fail to indicate the extent of any such undivided interest the holders of title or evidence of title whose undivided interests in any land are not specifically defined shall be deemed to have equal shares therein. Where property has been conveyed prior to the election and such change of interest does not appear by such assessment roll the original deed of conveyance, or a copy thereof duly certified by the county recorder of the county wherein the same has been recorded, or otherwise authenticated, shall be sufficient evidence to entitle the holder thereof to vote the acreage therein described. Any person not legally qualified to vote who shall make any false statement in respect to his right to vote shall incur all of the penalties provided in the Penal Code of the State of California for persons illegally voting at elections. The certificate of the register of the United States land office for the district in which the lands are situated, or of the surveyor general of the State of California, shall be sufficient evidence of possessory right in any lands entered under the laws of the United States or of the State of California. Guardians, personal representatives and other persons holding land in a trust capacity under appointment of court may sign any petition and may vote at any election in behalf of the estate represented by them without obtaining any special authority therefor. A certificate of acknowledgment taken before a notary public or justice of the peace of any state, or an affidavit by any person in the presence of whom a petition was signed, shall be sufficient evidence of the genuineness of such signature and of the fact of place of residence of any petitioner under this act. The state engineer shall, prior to the election on organization, and at all subsequent elections the board of directors shall, cause to be prepared and certified and furnished to the election board at each voting place in the district a copy of each of said assessment rolls so far as the same pertains to any land in the respective precincts, and shall likewise cause to be prepared and furnished to the election boards lists certified by the register of the United States land office or the surveyor general of the State of California, as the case may be, showing the lands entered under the laws of the United States or of the State of California, respectively, which said lists, so far as disclosed by the records of said offices, shall contain the names of the persons entitled to possessory rights therein and the quantity of land held by each of said persons by virtue of said rights. Said assessment rolls and said lists shall be used by the election boards in determining the qualifications of voters and the number of votes each voter is entitled to cast.

Where a tract of land is situated partly within and partly without the boundaries of an election precinct and the assessment roll contains a valuation of said tract as a whole the same must be apportioned according to the number of acres lying within and without the boundaries of said precinct. If there shall be included in any assessment roll or list as furnished to an election board any land which has no valuation assigned to it, then the state engineer or the board of directors, as the case may be, shall request the county assessor of the county in which such land is situated to value said land and it shall be the duty of such county assessor to prepare and furnish to the state engineer or board requesting it a statement of the value of such land as the same shall be appraised by him, which value shall be arrived at as nearly as may be done in the same manner and upon the same basis as was the valuation for purposes of taxation assessed upon other lands in the precinct similarly situated, and the valuation so made by the county assessor shall be furnished to the election board of the precinct in which the land so valued is situated and shall be used by the election board in determining the number of votes which the holder of title or evidence of title to such land is entitled to cast. (Stats. 1929, p. 403.)

### Publication, How and Where Made.

Sec. 52. Whenever any notice or publication, or notice of publication, or official advertising, or publication of process is required to be given or made by the provisions of this act the same, unless otherwise specifically provided in this act, shall be given or made in a newspaper of general circulation as defined by the laws of this state, printed and published in each county in which any of the lands in a water storage district, or a proposed water storage district, are situated, and if in any such county or counties there be no such newspaper then in a newspaper printed and published in an adjoining county, the time of the giving or making of said notices, publication, or advertising shall be, unless otherwise specifically provided in this act, once a week for two successive weeks. (Stats. 1923, p. 963.)

### State Engineer, Additional Duties of.

Sec. 53. The state engineer shall have authority and it shall be his duty to give information, so far as may be practicable, to persons contemplating the organization of a water storage district, and whenever the department of engineering of this state shall deem it in the public interest that preliminary surveys and field investigations of proposed water storage district projects shall be made at the expense of the state the state engineer shall make such surveys and investigation and prepare a report thereof which shall be kept on file in his office.

Validity of section.

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Records of Proceedings.

Sec. 54. The state engineer and the board of directors of every water storage district shall, respectively, cause to be entered in books to be kept for that purpose a complete and connected record of all their acts and transactions and shall execute all contracts and other written instruments in duplicate, one copy of each of which, together with any other documents, instruments, or other papers filed with them, shall be kept and preserved on file in their respective offices and open to inspection by the public during business hours. Said records and all documents, instruments, or other papers filed as above provided, or a copy or copies of any thereof certified by the state engineer or secretary of the board, shall be received in evidence without further proof in any court of this state, or before any board or tribunal authorized to hear or consider a matter wherein the same shall be properly admissible in evidence.

### Title to, and Disposition of Property.

Sec. 55. The legal title to all property acquired under the provisions of this act shall by operation of law, immediately upon the acquisition thereof, vest in the water storage district by which it is acquired, and shall be held by such district in trust for the uses and purposes set forth in this act, and is hereby dedicated and set apart to said uses and purposes. The board of directors is hereby authorized and empowered to hold, use, manage, occupy, and possess said property and may determine by resolution duly entered upon its minutes, that any property, real or personal, held by the district is not necessary for the uses and purposes thereof and may sell the same for an adequate consideration; and a conveyance or transfer of any of the property of a district executed by the president and secretary of its board of directors in pursuance of a resolution of the board adopted as above provided, shall convey good title to the property.

**Warrants, How Drawn.**

SEC. 56. Warrants drawn by the state engineer shall be signed by him and shall be drawn upon the treasurer of the water storage district. Warrants, drawn by the board of directors shall be signed by its president and secretary and countersigned by its treasurer, and shall be drawn upon the county treasurer of a county having funds belonging to the district in his possession for payment of the principal or interest of bonds, and upon the treasurer of the district or the county treasurer of such a county, as the case may be, for payment of all other claims and demands.

**Warrants, Payment of and Interest on Unpaid.**

SEC. 57. Whenever any warrant of the district payable on demand is presented for payment when funds are not available for the payment thereof, it shall thereafter draw interest at a rate to be determined by resolution of the board of directors, not, however, to exceed seven per centum per annum, until public notice is given that such funds are available. Upon the presentation of any such warrants for payment when funds of the district are not available to pay the same, the treasurer of the district or of the county, as the case may be, shall endorse thereon the words "funds not available for payment," with the date of presentation, and shall specify the interest that such warrants shall thereafter bear and shall sign his name thereto. He shall keep a record showing the number and amount of each such warrant, the date of its issuance, the person in whose favor it was issued, and the date of its presentation for payment, and such warrant is and shall be considered as a contract in writing for the payment of money and the period prescribed for the commencement of an action based upon such warrant is and shall be four years from the date of issuance. Whenever there is sufficient money in the treasury to pay all such outstanding warrants, or whenever the board of directors shall order that all such warrants presented for payment prior to a certain date be paid and there is sufficient money available for such payment, the proper treasurer shall publish a notice once a week for two successive weeks in some newspaper published in the county in which the office of the board of directors is situated, stating that he is prepared to pay all warrants of the district for the payment of which funds were not available upon their original presentation, or all such warrants which were presented for payment prior to the date fixed by the board of directors as the case may be, and no further description of the warrants entitled to payment need be made in such notice. Upon the presentation of any warrant entitled to payment under the terms of such notice, the treasurer shall pay it together with interest thereon at the rate specified by the board of directors, from the date of its original presentation for payment to the date of the first publication of said notice, and all warrants for the payment of which funds are declared in said notice to be available shall cease to draw interest at the time of the first publication of said notice. The treasurer shall enter in the record hereinbefore required to be kept, the dates of the payment of all such warrants, the names of the persons to whom payments are made, and the amount paid to each person.

### Declaration of Public Use.

Sec. 58. It is hereby declared that the State of California has a paramount interest in the storage, conservation and diversion of water, the prevention of floods, the irrigation, drainage, and reclamation of land and the production of electric energy; and that such storage, conservation, diversion, irrigation, prevention of floods, reclamation, drainage, and production of electric energy will make productive vast quantities of land that are comparatively unproductive and will increase production, property valuations and population in the state, make profitable the cultivation of small tracts and promote subdivision of larger tracts, and will promote the welfare and prosperity of all the people. The powers herein conferred upon the state engineer and board of directors are hereby declared to be police and regulatory powers and are necessary to the accomplishment of a purpose that is indispensable to the public interests, and the water storage districts hereunder provided to be formed are districts of the nature of irrigation, reclamation, or drainage districts in respect to all matters contemplated in the provisions of the constitution of the State of California relating to irrigation, reclamation, or drainage. The use of all water required for the irrigation of the lands of any district formed under the provisions of this act and for domestic and other incidental and beneficial uses within such district, together with the rights of way for canals and ditches, sites for reservoirs and all other property required in fully carrying out the provisions of this act is hereby declared to be a public use, subject to the regulation and control of the state, in the manner prescribed by law.

### Exemption of Property From Taxation.

Sec. 59. The rights of way, ditches, canals, flumes, pipe lines, dams, water rights, reservoirs, power plants, and transmission lines, and all other property of like character belonging to a water storage district shall not be taxed for state and county or muncipal purposes.

### Limitation and Conduct of Actions.

Sec. 60. Unless some other time therefor is elsewhere in this act expressly provided, no action, proceeding or contest whatsoever shall be brought or maintained before any court, board or other tribunal unless such action, proceeding or contest be brought within the times hereinafter specified.

(1) Attacking the organization of any water storage district, within six months of the date of the organization thereof.

(2) Attacking the inclusion of land within or the exclusion of land from any such district, within six months of the date of such inclusion or exclusion.

(3) Attacking any assessment of any such district, within ninety days of the date upon which the assessment roll is filed with the county treasurer.

(4) Attacking any toll or charge of any such district, within ninety days of the date upon which such toll or charge becomes payable.

(5) Attacking the validity of any bonds issued by the district, within ninety days of the date of issuance of such bonds.

(6) Attacking any other proceeding or action taken or thing done by said district or by the board of directors thereof under the provisions of this act, within six months of the date of such proceeding, action or thing.

The court, board or other tribunal before which any action, proceeding or contest whatsoever is brought in anywise involving the regularity, legality, validity, or correctness of any proceeding taken or thing done pursuant to any of the provisions of this act, shall disregard any error, irregularity or omission which does not affect the substantial rights of the parties concerned. In all actions, proceedings or contests the rules of pleading and practice provided by the Code of Civil Procedure of California, in so far as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, shall apply. The costs of any action, proceeding or contest may be allowed and apportioned between the parties or taxed to the defeated party, in the discretion of the court, board or other tribunal before which the same is heard. No action, proceeding or contest whatsoever shall be commenced other than within the time and manner in this act specified and in the determination thereof all findings of fact or conclusions of the state engineer or the board of directors upon all matters shall be conclusive, unless the action, proceeding or contest is instituted within six months after such findings or conclusions are made. (Stats. 1927, p. 1269.)

### Consolidation of Actions.

Sec. 61. If two or more actions or contests shall be pending at the same time in the same court or before the same board or tribunal for the purpose of contesting or determining the validity of identical or similar acts or matters under the provisions of this act, said actions or contests shall be consolidated and tried together.

### Neglect of Official to Perform Duty.

Sec. 62. It shall be the duty of the state engineer to ascertain whether the duties relating to the levying and collection of any assessment or assessments provided for in this act have been performed by the proper officer, and if the engineer shall learn that any officer of the district or of any county therein has neglected or refused to perform such duty he shall forthwith notify the district attorney of the county in which the office of the district is located of such failure or neglect, and said district attorney shall, thereupon, after due notice to the official or officials involved, take such proceedings in court as may be necessary to compel the performance of such duty.

### Penalty for Violation of Duty by Officer.

Sec. 63. For any wilful violation of any express duty in this act provided for on the part of any officer herein named, such officer shall be liable upon his official bond and shall be subject to removal from office by proceeding brought in the superior court of the county in which the office of the board of directors of the district is located, by any assessment payer of the district.

### Omission of Land From Assessment.

Sec. 64. In the event that any land within a water storage district is omitted from any assessment roll, or if appearing in such roll is neither assessed nor stated to be not assessed, it shall be taken that such land was, by oversight, omitted from consideration for assessment purposes, and upon discovery that any land was so omitted from consideration for assessment purposes, or upon final adjudication by a court of competent jurisdiction that any assessment is invalid as to the part of the lands assessed, it shall be the duty of the board of directors in case the original assessment was one spread in the manner provided by section 19 to certify the fact of such omission or invalidity to the state engineer and thereupon proceedings for the making of an amendatory assessment shall be had in the manner provided in said section 19 for original assessments, such amendatory assessment to be made upon the basis of determining, as nearly as may be, what the original assessment upon such land would have been except for such omission or invalidity. In case the original assessment was not one made under section 19, the board of directors shall cause an amendatory assessment as to such land to be made upon the basis and in the manner in which the original assessment to be amended was made; provided, such amendatory assessment be made within two years after the making of the original assessment. The proceedings for making, levying and collecting such amendatory assessment shall be the same as those provided in this act for the making, levying and collecting the assessment of which such assessment is amendatory. (Stats. 1927, p. 1269.)

## CHANGE OF BOUNDARIES

### General Provisions.

Sec. 64a. The boundaries of any water storage district now or hereafter organized under the provisions of this act may, after organization, be changed in the manner hereinafter provided, by the inclusion of lands therein or the exclusion of lands therefrom; provided, however, that no such change of boundaries shall impair or affect the organization of such district or its right in or to property or any of its rights or privileges of whatsoever kind or nature; nor shall it affect, impair or discharge any contract, obligation, lien or charge for or upon which said district was liable or chargeable had such change in its boundaries not been made. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1270.)

### Petition for Exclusion of Lands.

Sec. 64b. The holder or holders of title or evidence of title to one or more tracts of land which constitute a portion of a water storage district may jointly or severally file with the state engineer a petition, praying that such tract or tracts, and any other tracts contiguous thereto, may be excluded and taken from the district. The petition shall state the grounds and reasons upon which it is claimed that such lands should be excluded and shall describe the boundaries thereof, and also the lands of such petitioner or petitioners which are included within such boundaries; but the description of such lands need not be more particular or certain than is required when the lands are entered in the assessment book by the county assessor. Such petition must be acknowledged in the same manner and form as is required in the case of a conveyance of land, and the acknowledgment shall have the same force and effect as evidence as the acknowledgment of such a conveyance. (Stats. 1929, p. 404.)

### Publication of Notice.

SEC. 64c. The state engineer shall cause a notice of the filing of such petition to be published once a week for two successive weeks in some newspaper published in the county where the office of the board of directors is situated, and if any portion of such territory to be excluded lie within another county or counties, then said notice shall be so published in a newspaper published within each of said counties; or if no newspaper be published therein, then by posting such notice for the same time in at least three public places in said district, and in case of the posting of said notices, one of said notices must be so posted on the lands proposed to be excluded. The notice shall state the filing of such petition, the names of the petitioners, a description of the lands mentioned in said petition, and the prayer of said petition; and it shall notify all persons interested in, or who may be affected by such change of the boundaries of the district, to appear at the office of the said board at a time named in said notice, and show cause, in writing, if any they have, why the change of the boundaries of said district, as proposed in said petition, should not be made. (Stats. 1929, p. 405.)

### Hearing of Petition.

SEC. 64d. The state engineer at the time and place mentioned in the notice, or at the time or times to which the hearing of said petition may be adjourned, shall proceed to hear the petition, and all evidence or proofs that may or shall be introduced by or on behalf of the petitioner or petitioners, and all objections to such petition that may or shall be presented in writing by any person showing cause as aforesaid, and all evidence and proofs that may be introduced in support of such objections. The failure of any person interested in said district, other than the holders of bonds thereof outstanding at the time of the filing of said petition with said board, to show cause, in writing, why the tract or tracts of land mentioned in said petition should not be excluded from said district, shall be deemed and taken as an assent by him to the exclusion of such tract or tracts of land, or any part thereof, from said district; and the filing of such petition with said state engineer as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken as an assent by each and all of such petitioners to the exclusion from such district of the lands mentioned in the petition, or any part thereof. The expenses of giving said notice and of the aforesaid proceeding shall be paid by the person or persons filing such petition. (Stats. 1929, p. 405.)

### Granting or Denial of Petition.

SEC. 64e. If upon the hearing of any such petition it appears that the lands sought to be excluded will not be benefited by irrigation from water supplied from said district or by reclamation or drainage of the land not made necessary by the irrigation of other lands the land shall be excluded from the district, but if no evidence or proofs in support thereof be introduced, or if the evidence fail to sustain said petition, or if the state engineer deem it not for the best interest of the district that the lands, or some portion thereof, mentioned in the petition, should be excluded from the district, the state engineer shall order that said petition be denied as to such lands; but if the said state engineer deem it for the best interest of the district that the lands mentioned in the petition, or some portion thereof, be excluded from the district, and if no person interested in the district show cause in writing why the said petition should be denied in whole or in part, or if, having shown cause, withdraws his objections, or upon the hearing fails to establish such objections as he may have made, then it shall be the duty of said state engineer to, and he shall forthwith, make an order that the lands mentioned, and described in the petition, or some defined portion thereof, be excluded from said district. (Stats. 1929, p. 406.)

### Outstanding Bonds, Assent of Rest of District.

Sec. 64f. If there be outstanding bonds of the district at the time of the filing of said petition, the holders of such outstanding bonds may give their assent, in writing, to the effect that they severally consent that the lands mentioned in the petition, or such portion thereof as may be excluded from said district by order of said state engineer, may be excluded from the district, and if said lands or any portion thereof be thereafter excluded from the district, the lands so excluded shall be released from the lien of such outstanding bonds. The assent must be acknowledged by the several holders of such bonds in the same manner and form as is required in case of a conveyance of land, and the acknowledgment shall have the same force and effect as evidence as the acknowledgment of such conveyance. The assent shall be filed with the state engineer and must be recorded in the minutes of the state engineer; and said minutes, or a copy thereof, certified by the state engineer, shall be admissible in evidence, with the same effect as the said assent, and such certified copy thereof may be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county wherein said lands are situated. (Stats. 1929, p. 406.)

### Record of Exclusion.

Sec. 64g. In the event the said state engineer shall exclude any lands from said district upon petition therefor, it shall be the duty of the state engineer to make an entry in the minutes of the state engineer describing the boundaries of the district, should the exclusion of said lands from said district change the boundaries of said district, and for that purpose the state engineer may cause a survey to be made of such portions of the district as the state engineer may deem necessary; and a certified copy of the entry in the minutes of the state engineer excluding any land, certified by the state engineer, shall be filed for record in the recorder's office of each county within which are situated any of the lands of the district; but said district, notwithstanding such exclusion, shall be and remain a water storage district as fully, to every intent and purpose as it would be had no change been made in the boundaries of the district, or had the lands excluded therefrom never constituted a portion of the district. (Stats. 1929, p. 406.)

### Reestablishment of Divisions and Election Precincts.

Sec. 64h. In case land is excluded from any district, the state engineer, if he deems it desirable, but not less than sixty days before any election in such district, may reestablish the boundaries of the divisions within such district. (Stats. 1929, p. 407.)

### Excluded Lands Subject to Lien of Outstanding Bonds.

SEC. 64i. Nothing in this act provided shall, in any manner, operate to release any of the lands so excluded from the district from any obligation to pay, or any lien thereon, of any valid outstanding bonds or other indebtedness of said district at the time of the filing of said petition for the exclusion of said lands, but upon the contrary, said lands shall be held subject to said lien, and answerable and chargeable for and with the payment and discharge of all of said outstanding obligations at the time of the filing of the petition for the exclusion of said lands, as fully as though said petition for such exclusion were never filed and said order of exclusion never made; and for the purpose of discharging such outstanding indebtedness, said lands so excluded shall be deemed and considered as a part of said water storage district the same as though said petition for their exclusion had never been filed or said order of exclusion never made; and all provisions which might be resorted to to compel the payment by said lands of their quota or portion of said outstanding obligations, had said exclusion never been accomplished, may, notwithstanding said exclusion, be resorted to to compel and enforce the payment on the part of said lands of their quota and portion of said outstanding obligations of said district for which they are liable as herein provided. But said lands so excluded shall not be held answerable or chargeable for any obligation of any nature or kind whatever, incurred after the exclusion of said lands from the said district; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to any outstanding bonds, the holders of which have assented to the exclusion of such lands from said district, as hereinbefore provided. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1273.)

### Petition for Inclusion of New Lands.

SEC. 64j. The holder or holders of title, or evidence of title, representing one-half or more of any body of lands adjacent to the boundary of a water storage district may file with the state engineer a petition, in writing, praying that the boundaries of said district may be so changed as to include therein said lands. A copy of said petition shall forthwith be filed with the board of directors of said district. The petition shall describe the boundaries of said parcel or tract of land, and shall also describe the boundaries of the several parcels owned by the petitioners, if the petitioners be the owners, respectively, of distinct parcels, but such descriptions need not be more particular than they are required to be when such lands are entered by the county assessor in the assessment book. Such petition must contain the assent of the petitioners to the inclusion within said district of the parcels or tracts of land described in the petition and of which said petition alleges they are, respectively, the owners; and it must be acknowledged in the same manner that conveyances of land are required to be acknowledged. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1274.)

### Notice of Filing of Petition.

SEC. 64k. The state engineer shall cause a notice of the filing of such petition to be given and published in the same manner and for the same time that notices of special elections for the issue of bonds, are required by this act to be published. Such notices shall state the filing of such petition and the names of the petitioners, a description of the lands mentioned in said petition, and the prayer of said petition; and it shall notify all persons interested in, or that may be affected by such change of the boundaries of the district, to appear at a time and place fixed by the state engineer and stated in said notices, which place shall be the office of the board of directors of the said district, and show cause in writing, if any they have, why the change of the boundaries of said district, as proposed in said petition, should not be made. The petitioners shall advance to the state engineer sufficient money to pay the estimated costs of all proceedings upon said petition. (Added Stats. 1927, p. 1274.)

### Hearing of Petition.

SEC. 64l. The state engineer, at the time and place mentioned in the said notices, or at such other time or times to which the hearing of said petition may be adjourned, shall proceed to hear the petition and all the objections thereto presented in writing by any person showing cause, as aforesaid, why said proposed change of the boundaries of the district should not be made. The failure of any person interested in said district, or in the matter of the proposed change of its boundaries, to show cause in writing, as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken as an assent on his part to a change of the boundaries of the district ~~as~~ prayed for in said petition, or to any such change thereof as will include a part of said lands. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1274.)

### Assessment Upon New Lands.

SEC. 64m. Upon the inclusion of any lands within a district an assessment shall be levied upon such lands, the amount of the assessment against each tract or parcel to be the amount, as nearly as can be determined, of all assessments, other than those for the maintenance, repair or operation of the works of the district or the management and conduct thereof, levied under the authority of section 22 of this act, which would have been levied against such tract or parcel if the same had been included in the district from its organization. The state engineer shall appoint commissioners to make such assessment in the number and manner provided by section 19 of this act and the same shall be made in the same manner and with the same incidents as an original assessment under said section, and all of the provisions of said section and all general provisions of this act as to assessments shall, so far as they are applicable, apply to such assessment. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1275.)

### Granting or Denying Petition.

SEC. 64n. If the state engineer shall determine that it is feasible and practicable to irrigate the lands described in said petition, or any portion of them, by the system of storage and irrigation works of the district, and if he shall deem it for the best interest of the district that the boundaries thereof be changed by including said lands, or any thereof, within said district, and if no protest against such change is made to him in writing by the board of directors of such district, or if such protest be made if the same be withdrawn, and if no protest against such change is made as provided in section 64o of this act, or if such protest be made and enough signatures be withdrawn therefrom so that said protest is no longer sufficient, the said state engineer shall order that the boundaries of the district be changed so as to include therein the lands described in said petition, or such portion thereof as he shall have found it to be feasible and practicable to irrigate by the system of storage and irrigation works of the district and which he shall deem it for the best interests of the district to include therein. The order shall describe the boundaries as changed, and shall also describe the entire boundaries of the district as they will be after the change thereof as aforesaid is made, and for that purpose the state engineer may cause a survey to be made of such portions of such boundaries as he deems necessary. A certified copy of the order including such lands shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder of each county wherein the lands are situated, and thereupon said lands shall become a part of the district.

If the state engineer determines that it is not feasible and practicable to irrigate any of the lands described in the petition or that it is not for the best interest of the district that any of such land be included in it, he shall make an order denying the petition. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1275.)

### Inclusion of Lands Over Protest.

SEC. 64o. If the board of directors of the district shall protest in writing against the inclusion of such lands, or if a protest against the inclusion of such lands signed by not less than three per cent of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands within the district and holding the title or evidence of title to not less than three per cent in value of the lands within the district according to the last equalized county tax assessment roll shall have been presented to the state engineer, and upon the hearing of said matter all of said protests shall not be withdrawn, or in the case of a protest by landowners such protest after deducting all withdrawals is still signed by not less than three per cent of the holders of title or evidence of title to land within the district, but the state engineer shall nevertheless conclude that it is feasible and practicable to irrigate the said land described in said petition or some of them by the system of storage and irrigation works of the district and that it is for the best interest of the district to include therein such lands or some of them, the state engineer shall make a finding in writing in accordance with such conclusion describing the boundary or boundaries of the lands which he finds it is feasible and practicable so to irrigate and should be included in the district for its best interest. A copy of such finding shall be transmitted to the board of directors. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1276.)

### Election.

SEC. 64p. Upon the making of a finding by the state engineer as provided in section 64o, he shall order that an election be held within said district to determine whether the boundaries of the district shall be changed to include the lands specified in such finding, and shall fix the time at which such election shall be held and cause notice thereof to be given and published. Such notice shall be given and published and such election shall be held and conducted, returns thereof shall be made and canvassed, and the result of the election ascertained and declared, and all things pertaining thereto conducted in the manner prescribed by this act in the case of a special election to determine whether bonds of a water storage district shall be issued. The ballots cast at such election shall contain the words "For change of boundary—Yes" or "For change of boundary—No." The notice of election shall state that the election is for the purpose of determining whether certain lands, describing their boundary or boundaries, shall or shall not be included in the district. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1276.)

#### Results of Election—If a Majority Favor Change of Boundaries.

Sec. 64q. If at such election a majority of all the votes cast thereat shall be against such change of the boundaries of the district said petition shall be deemed denied, but if a majority of such votes be in favor of such change of boundaries, the state engineer shall make his order, as provided in section 64n hereof, that the boundaries of the district be changed so as to include such lands therein. A certified copy of such order shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder of each county wherein the lands are situated and thereupon such lands shall become a part of the district. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1277.)

#### Reestablishment of Divisions and Election Precincts.

Sec. 64r. In case land is included within any district as aforesaid, the board of directors thereof shall reestablish the boundaries of the divisions within such district so as to include such land therein, and so as to segregate into separate divisions lands possessing the same general character of water rights or interests in and to the waters of the common source of supply of such district. Said board shall also reestablish the boundaries of the election precincts within said district; provided, however, that in the case of the inclusion of any land within less than thirty days before an election within the district, the election precincts shall not be reestablished until after such election, and the owners of such newly included land shall not be entitled to vote at such election. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1277.)

#### Lands Held by Guardian, Executor or Administrator.

Sec. 64s. As to any lands belonging to a person under guardianship or comprised in the undistributed estate of a decedent, the guardian of such person or the executor or administrator of such estate shall be deemed the holder of title or of evidence of title to such lands for the purpose of representing the same in all proceedings under this act, and in particular shall, as such, have the right to sign all petitions or protests herein provided for, and to vote at all district elections, all without any order of court authorizing him so to do. (Added, Stats. 1927, p. 1277.)

#### Dissolution of District.

Sec. 65. Any water storage district organized pursuant to the provisions of this act may be dissolved for the same reasons, under the same circumstances, in the same manner, upon the same conditions, and with the same results as is or may be provided by the laws of this state for the dissolution of irrigation districts organized under the laws of California; provided, that in case a contract authorized by law has been made between a water storage district and the United States pertaining to the construction, maintenance, or operation of the works of the district, or the delivery or supply of water therefor, no such district shall be dissolved nor shall any proceedings be initiated by a court or otherwise for the purpose of dissolving such district, unless and until the consent in writing of the secretary of the interior to such dissolution or proceedings has first been obtained.

Constitutionality.

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Title of Act.

Sec. 66. This act shall be known and may be referred to in any action, proceeding, or legislative enactment, as the "California water storage district act."

### Unconstitutionality of Part of Act, Effect of.

Sec. 67. If any section, subdivision, sentence, clause, or phrase of this act be for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act, and the Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this act and each and every other section, subdivision, sentence, clause, and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, or phrases of this act be declared unconstitutional.

### Noninterference With Vested Rights.

Sec. 68. Nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to affect or impair the vested right of any person, association, or corporation to the use of water. (Stats. 1929, p. 407.)

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

### Repeal of Other Acts.

Sec. 69. The California irrigation act, approved June 4, 1915, and all acts amendatory thereof, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with any of the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed, but nothing in this act shall be construed as repealing or in anywise modifying the provisions of any other act relating to the subject of irrigation.

Repeal constitutional.

*Tarpey* vs. *McClure,* 190 Cal. 593, 213 Pac. 983.

## CHAPTER V

## CALIFORNIA WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ACT

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**Preliminary Statement.**

This act was passed in 1923 and carries the above title. There are also water conservation acts of 1927 and 1929 which relate to different types of organizations. (See Foreword.)

The California Water Conservation District Act provides for the organization of three or more separate units for the purpose of constructing and operating works jointly useful to such units. The conservation district does not replace the unit organizations in their local and internal management. The act is intended to apply to areas where three or more existing districts desire to join in storage or other joint works and where a definite form of controlling organization is desired. For smaller numbers of units a joint contract basis is available and has been used without creating any overlying general organization. The act was drawn particularly to meet conditions on Kings River.

The conservation district act creates a state irrigation board consisting of the state engineer as chairman and the two executive directors of the water storage district as members.

Participation in a water conservation district is limited to units organized as districts. Such units may be irrigation, water storage, reclamation, drainage districts or other similar political subdivisions of the state. The organization of a conservation district may be proposed by three or more of such units by means of a petition presented to the state irrigation board. Signature to the petition is by resolution of the board of directors of the units concerned. The petition is advertised and heard. The state irrigation board also conducts investigations of the proposed project. A report of the results of such investigations is made by the board, which also apportions the costs and interest in the waters to be stored or provided among the different units. Following such apportionment each unit calls an election at which it votes on the question of joining the conservation district and also on the issuance of bonds for its part of the costs. In order for the conservation district organization to be effected units representing at least 85 per cent of the allocated costs must vote in favor of organization. Units voting against the organization are dropped from the proceedings.

If the organization election carries, the state irrigation board groups the units in any odd number from 3 to 11 of director divisions. Only units organized under the same form of act can be grouped in any director's division. An election is then held for directors. The elected directors conduct the affairs of the conservation district. The conservation district calls on the units for their proportion of the funds required.

This act is adapted to areas desiring to retain their local organizations for the canal systems but desiring to enter into works of joint benefit such as storage, power or flood protection.

One conservation district has initiated procedure under this act. The Kings River Water Conservation District filed a petition for organization in 1924. Several hearings thereon have been held. At present the petition is still pending waiting upon the completion of various preliminary matters by the units. The petition was filed by twelve units having about 800,000 acres. It is anticipated that some additional areas may join before the project proceeds to organization.

## CALIFORNIA WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ACT

*An act providing for the organization, operation, maintenance, and government of water conservation districts, and for the acquisition, appropriation, diversion, storage, conservation, and distribution of water for the irrigating of lands in such districts, for drainage and reclamation connected therewith; and for the generation, disposition, and sale of hydroelectric energy developed incidental to such storage and distribution; and for the acquisition of lands or rights therein and the acquisition, construction, operation, and maintenance of works to carry into effect the provisions of this act; for the inclusion therein of irrigation districts, water storage districts, reclamation districts, drainage districts, and other political subdivisions of the state, as constituent districts or units of said water conservation districts, and the manner of providing funds and the voting and issuance of bonds by such political subdivisions, to carry out the purposes of this act; and creating a state board to be known as the "state irrigation board," and defining its powers and duties, and the methods and procedure of exercising such powers and duties.*[1]

(Approved June 18, 1923, Stats. 1923, p. 978; amended Stats. 1925, p. 555; amended Stats. 1927, p. 431.)

### STATE IRRIGATION BOARD

**State Irrigation Board Created.**

SECTION 1. There is created a board to be known as the "state irrigation board," which board shall consist of the state engineer and two executive directors.

That said board shall constitute a body corporate and body politic for the purpose of exercising the powers and performing the acts herein mentioned, and said board shall have the power to sue and be sued.

The executive directors provided for by the California water storage district act, Statutes of 1921, page 1727, and approved June 3, 1921, are hereby declared to be and are hereby constituted the two executive directors of the "state irrigation board" herein created; provided, however, that if any of the offices provided for in the said California water storage district act are vacated or declared vacant or abolished, the governor shall without delay appoint the executive members of said board herein created and said executive directors so appointed by the governor shall serve for four years and until their successors have been appointed. Their successors shall be appointed and all vacancies shall be filled by appointment in like manner.

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[1] Title amended, Stats. 1925, p. 556.

One of said executive directors shall have at least five years practical experience in irrigation, and the other of whom shall have at least five years experience in administration and both of whom shall be residents of this state and continue to be such residents during the term of their office.

The office of the state irrigation board herein created shall be at the city of Sacramento, in the State of California.

Each executive director shall receive as compensation the sum of twenty (20) dollars per day for each day actually employed in the performance of duties under this act and shall receive actual traveling expenses when engaged in the performance of such duties, which shall be charged as a part of the cost of the project of the proposed water conservation district for which such duties are performed.

### Officers and Employees of Board.

Sec. 2. The state engineer shall be the chairman of the state irrigation board herein created and said board shall employ a secretary and such attorneys, engineers and other employees and assistants as it may require and shall fix the term of their employment and compensation.

### Power to Organize Water Conservation Districts.

Sec. 3. The state irrigation board shall have the power to unite into single districts in the manner and for the purposes provided in this act, irrigation districts, water storage districts, reclamation districts, drainage districts and other political subdivisions of the state, organized to promote irrigation, reclamation or drainage, which united districts shall be known and are herein referred to as water conservation districts; and the purposes of the formation of such districts being primarily to provide for the storage of waters and the development of hydroelectric energy in conjunction therewith and incidental thereto, to promote the irrigation of the lands therein, and in connection therewith and incidental thereto the reclamation and drainage and flood control of such lands. The Legislature hereby declares that every such water conservation district, formed as herein provided, is and shall be an irrigation district with the meaning of section 13 of article eleven of the constitution of the State of California, and within the meaning of every other provision of said constitution relating to irrigation districts. Such water conservation districts shall be composed of three or more units, all or any of which units shall be irrigation districts, water storage districts, reclamation districts, drainage districts, or other political subdivisions of the state organized to promote irrigation, reclamation or drainage or flood control.

## ORGANIZATION OF DISTRICTS

### Petition for Organization.

Sec. 4. Whenever three or more of such units, all or any of which units shall be irrigation districts, reclamation districts, drainage districts, water storage districts or other political subdivisions of the state organized to promote irrigation, reclamation or drainage or flood control now or hereafter to be formed, can use a common system of works and all the land situated therein be benefited by such works, the governing boards of any three or more of said units may present a petition to the state irrigation board herein created for the purpose and object of creating a water conservation district. Said petition shall designate by name or otherwise the units joined in such petition and the water to be stored, used or acquired and shall outline generally the character and location of the proposed works and pray that said units be united in pursuance of the provisions of this act so as to create a water conservation district.

Said petition shall be signed by the presiding officers and the secretary or clerk of the governing board of each of said units under seal of said units so petitioning said state irrigation board to form a water conservation district as herein provided.

Said petition may be contained in separate instruments presented by each unit or may be contained in one or more instruments presented by any or all of said units. Such petition must be accompanied by a certified copy of a resolution of the governing boards of each petitioning unit, authorizing the presiding officer and the secretary or clerk to execute the same.

Said petition must be accompanied with a good and sufficient undertaking or agreement to be approved by the state irrigation board herein created, conditioned that the sureties or signers shall pay all of the costs and expenses in connection with the investigation herein provided for in case said organization shall not be finally effected, and said state irrigation board herein created shall have power to require the furnishing of any additional undertaking, or undertakings, or payments of money in case they should deem the same necessary; provided, however, that the cost thereof shall not in the aggregate exceed in amount in dollars one-fourth the number of acres in such proposed water conservation district and shall be deemed a part of the expense of said project, and said state irrigation board herein created may require the same to be paid by the proponents of said district, and the sum so collected and expended by said state irrigation board shall be considered and treated as a proper and legal charge against the water conservation district and which shall be payable out of the funds of said water conservation district when the organization thereof has been completed.

If said district for any reason be not organized as hereinafter provided for, any money remaining in the hands of said state irrigation board shall be returned to petitioners.

Upon presentation to it of a petition or petitions, as aforesaid praying for the formation of a conservation district, the state irrigation board herein created shall fix a time and place, which place shall be within the county in which the lands of said proposed water conservation district are situated and if the lands of such water conservation district are situated in more than one county, then in any one of such counties, at which it shall hear said petition, which time shall be not less than twenty-five (25) days, nor more than thirty (30) days, after the first publication of the notice hereinafter provided for in section five (5) of this act.

**Notice of Hearing.**

SEC. 5. Said petition together with a notice stating the time and place of the hearing so fixed by said state irrigation board shall be published in each county in which any of the lands of said proposed district are situated in a newspaper of general circulation, published in such county at least once a week for three successive weeks before the date of said hearing; said notice shall be issued by the said state irrigation board herein created, shall refer to said petition and shall be directed to the petitioners therein, and to each of the units petitioning to form said water conservation district, and to all persons holding title or evidences of title to any lands included within the water conservation district proposed in said petition, and to all persons having or claiming any right, title or interest in and to the waters proposed to be stored, acquired or used, as set out in said petition, and to all other persons who may be interested in or affected by the project contemplated in said petition, and to all or any persons in any way interested in or affected by said petition or the formation of said water conservation district, and shall be substantially in the following form:

Before the State Irrigation Board of the State of California:

To the petitioners in the foregoing petition and to each of the units petitioning to form said water conservation district, and to all persons holding title or evidence of title to any lands included within the water conservation district proposed in said petition, and to all persons having or claiming any rights, title or interest in and to the waters proposed to be stored, acquired or used as set out in said petition, and to all other persons who may be interested in or affected by the project contemplated in said petition, and to all or any persons in any way interested in or affected by said petition or the formation of said water conservation district:

You and each of you are hereby notified that the foregoing petition was filed with the state irrigation board on the ------------ day of ------------, 19--, and will be heard by said state irrigation board at ------------ on the ------------ day of ------------, 19,--, at the hour of -------- o'clock --m. of said day, at which time and place said state irrigation board will hear and receive evidence in support of said petition and any objections which may be presented thereto.

This notice is given pursuant to the provisions of an act approved ------------------ and known as California water conservation district act, to which said act particular reference is hereby made.

State Irrigation Board,
By----------------------------------------
Chairman
By------------ --------------------------
Secretary

Dated------------ ------------

When contained in more than one instrument only one copy of said petition need be published but the name attached to all of said instruments must appear in such publication.

Hearing.

SEC. 6. At the time and place fixed in said notice the state irrigation board shall proceed to hear said petition and to determine whether or not the same complies with the requirements hereinbefore set forth and whether or not the notice filed herein has been published as required and must hear all competent and relevant testimony offered in support of or in opposition thereto.

Said hearing or any adjournment thereof may be conducted and heard by any one or more of the members of said state irrigation board. Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as the state irrigation board or any member or members thereof conducting the same may determine.

For the purpose of performing any duty under this act the chairman of the state irrigation board may appoint one or more of its members to conduct any hearing or investigation. Such member or members shall make a written report to the state irrigation board of the proceedings taken at such hearing and shall state the evidence introduced at such hearing and his or their conclusions thereon.

Upon such report or upon such further hearing as the state irrigation board shall deem proper, the state irrigation board may pass upon and decide any question under consideration at said hearing. The decision of the state irrigation board shall be final except as to questions, the determination of which are vested in the courts by this act or by the constitution of this state or by the constitution of the United States.

No defect in the contents of the petition or in the title to or form of the notice or signatures to said notice or petition shall vitiate any proceedings thereon.

If there shall be presented at such hearing or at any time before the final order herein provided for of the state irrigation board, a written objection or objections signed by the owners of more than one-half of the lands in any such units or constituent districts, or a majority in numbers of the holders of title or evidence of title, according to the equalized county assessment roll or rolls for the year last preceding, the signing of such petition by the officers of such constituent district or unit shall be deemed to be nullified, and the state irrigation board shall have no power to include such unit or district within the proposed water conservation district.

## WATER AND POWER SURVEY

### Examination and Report by Board.

SEC. 7. The state irrigation board shall before making a final order creating a water conservation district as in this act provided, proceed to make or cause to be made all such examinations, surveys, estimates of costs for the acquisition, appropriation, diversion, storage, conservation and distribution of water, any drainage or reclamation or flood control works in connection therewith and works for the generation of hydroelectric power incident thereto and the sale and distribution thereof, as may be necessary or requisite to enable said state irrigation board to ascertain and estimate the requirements and works necessary for the purpose of said water conservation district as prayed for in said petition and the cost and expense thereof, and to make a report thereon as herein provided.

In such connection said state irrigation board may use and adopt all previous estimates, surveys, reports and other data it may have acquired or which are available to it, adapted to that purpose and may employ all necessary engineers, attorneys and other assistants for the accomplishment of said purposes, and the cost thereof shall be deemed a part of the expense of the investigation and organization of such water conservation district as provided in section 4 hereof, and shall be a charge against said water conservation district if created.

Upon the completion of said examination and study of the proposed project by said state irrigation board, said board shall prepare a report thereof, in which report shall be set forth the character and nature of the proposed works, a description of the rights to water, to lands, and other property necessary to be acquired to carry said project to completion, accompanied by an estimate of the cost of said project. A copy of such report and estimate shall be kept on file in the office of the state irrigation board and be open to inspection during business hours by all interested persons or parties.

### Apportionment of Water Power, Etc.

SEC. 8. The state irrigation board shall, before making the final order creating a water conservation district, by order duly entered in its minutes, apportion to each constituent district or unit of said water conservation district, the portion to which it is entitled of all the water storage capacity in the proposed reservoir, the waters stored or to be stored or diverted or to be diverted by such project for the irrigation of the lands of the water conservation district, and all power developed or to be developed incidental thereto or in connection therewith, and in making such apportionment it must take into consideration the present water rights and the additional water necessary to perfect the irrigation of the lands of each unit, and the apportionment of power to each unit shall be in the same proportion to the whole as its apportionment of capacity in the reservoir, which proportion of such water and power shall be forever applied to the purpose and for the benefit of such constituent district or unit.

Said board shall likewise in such order determine, define, and apportion to each of such constituent districts or units the proportion of all costs and expenses of the project to be paid by it, including the costs and expenses of said irrigation board in connection therewith, same to be based upon and in proportion to the allotment of water storage capacity, water and power apportioned to each unit plus the benefit of reclamation or drainage or flood control to such unit, and to each of such allotments fifteen (15) per cent above the actual estimate shall be added for contingencies. A copy of such order duly certified, shall be served on each of the constituent districts or units by delivering the same to some officer thereof, and provided, that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to confer on said state irrigation board or upon any water conservation district formed under the provisions of this act the right to impair or deprive any person, corporation or district of any vested right in or to any water without due process of law. (Stats. 1925, p. 556.)

### Cost of Work Beneficial to Particular District.

SEC. 9. When any of the proposed works of a water conservation district will serve the purpose of drainage, flood control or reclamation within a constituent district or unit of a water conservation district, the state irrigation board may estimate the proportion of the cost of said construction which may be properly charged to the constituent district or unit benefited by such drainage, flood control or reclamation and carry such amount into the total sum to be paid by such constituent district or unit.

## ORGANIZATION—ELECTION

**Election.**

Sec. 10. After making the order of apportionment provided for in section 8 hereof the state irrigation board shall make an order directing the governing board of each unit or constituent district to call an election to be held on the one hundred and twentieth day after the making of said order by said irrigation board apportioning the benefits and costs and expenses as herein provided.

Said order of the state irrigation board last above provided for shall contain the name of the proposed water conservation district and shall describe the territory embraced within such proposed water conservation district by naming the constituent units or districts proposed to be joined therein as set forth in the petition to the state irrigation board.

Upon receiving and filing a copy of said order of said state irrigation board duly certified by the secretary of said board, it shall be the duty of the governing board of each of said constituent districts or units by resolution to call said election to be held, as herein provided.

The secretary of the governing board of each of said constituent districts or units shall give notice of said election, which said notice of such election shall contain the name of the proposed water conservation district and the description of the territory embraced within such proposed water conservation district by naming the constituent districts or units proposed to be joined therein as set forth in the petition to said state irrigation board. Said notice shall also state that there shall be submitted to the electors or voters of each of such units or districts in which such election is held the question as to whether or not a water conservation district shall be organized under the provisions of this act, and shall require ballots to be cast which shall contain the words "Water Conservation District—Yes" and "Water Conservation District—No" or words equivalent thereto, and shall require that said ballots shall also contain the words "Bonds—Yes" and "Bonds—No" or words equivalent thereto, and said notice shall also state the amount of bonds proposed to be issued to pay the proportion of the costs and expenses allotted and apportioned to such constituent district or unit by the state irrigation board in said order. Said notice shall also set forth the date upon which said election is to be held and the time of the opening and closing of the polls and shall specify the precincts in the constituent district or unit holding such election, which precincts shall be the same as those established and existing in such constituent district or unit where such election is held; and in the event none are already established and existing, then, prior to the giving of said notice of said election, the same are to be fixed and established for said election by the governing board of the particular district or unit in which the same are not already established and existing.

The governing board of the constituent district or unit holding said election shall in its resolution calling said election, fix and specify the polling places of each precinct and shall appoint one clerk, one inspector and two judges from the electors thereof for each polling place, who shall constitute a board of election for said precinct. Said polling places and the names of said officers of said election shall be specified in said notice of election. If a governing board fails to appoint a board of election, or the members appointed do not attend at the opening of the polls on the morning of the election, the electors of the precinct present at that hour may appoint the board or supply the place of an absent member thereof.

Said notice shall be posted for at least two weeks prior to the date of election in three public places in each election precinct in each constituent district or unit holding such election, and published for at least once a week for two successive weeks prior to the date of said election in a newspaper of general circulation in each county in which any of the lands of such constituent districts or units are located. At such election there shall be submitted to the electors or voters in each of such units or districts the question whether or not a water conservation district shall be organized under the provision of this act.

At such election there shall also be submitted to the electors or voters in each of such units or districts the question whether or not bonds shall be issued and sold in an amount sufficient to pay its proportion of the costs and expenses allotted and apportioned to such unit by the state irrigation board in said order. The ballots to be cast at said election shall contain the words, ''Water Conservation District—Yes'' and ''Water Conservation District—No'' or words equivalent thereto, and said ballot shall also contain the words ''Bonds—Yes'' and the words ''Bonds—No'' or words equivalent thereto.

No particular form of ballot shall be required other than as herein specified and any defect or informality in any statement on said ballot shall not invalidate said election.

As soon as all the votes are counted a certificate shall be drawn upon each of the papers containing the poll lists and tallies, or attached thereto, stating the number of votes each proposition voted on has received, which number shall be written in figures and in words at full length. Each certificate shall be signed by the clerk, inspector and one judge. One of said certificates with the poll list and tally paper to which it is attached, shall be retained by the inspector and preserved by him at least six months. The ballot shall be strung upon a cord or thread by the inspector during the counting thereof, in the order in which they are entered upon the tally list by the clerks; and said ballots, together with the other of said certificates with the poll list and tally paper to which it is attached, shall be sealed by the inspector in the presence of the judges and clerks and endorsed ''Election returns of (name of precinct) precinct,'' and be directed to the secretary of the governing board of the constituent unit or district in which said vote is cast, and shall be immediately delivered by the inspector, or by some other safe and responsible carrier designated by said inspector, to said secretary and the ballots shall be kept unopened for at least six months; but if any person be of the opinion that the vote of any precinct has not been correctly counted, he may appear on the date appointed for the governing board to open and canvass the returns and demand a re-count of the vote of the precinct that is so claimed to have been incorrectly counted, and no list, tally paper or certificate returned from any election shall be set aside or rejected for want of form if it can be satisfactorily understood.

The governing board of each constituent unit or district must meet at its usual place of meeting on the second Monday after said election to canvass the returns. If, at the time of meeting, the returns from each precinct in a constituent district or unit in which the polls were opened, have been received, the governing board must then and there proceed to canvass the returns; but if all the returns have not been received the canvass must be postponed from day to day until all the returns have been received, or until six postponements have been had. The canvass must be made in public and by opening the returns and estimating the vote of the district or unit on each proposition submitted and declaring the result thereof.

Except as herein otherwise specified, and as nearly as practicable, all the laws, rules and regulations, and amendments and modifications thereto, governing the manner of conducting and holding elections of the particular constituent district or unit in which the election provided for in this section is held, shall apply to and govern this election.

A majority vote in each constituent district or unit shall be required to carry the election in said district or unit in favor of the propositions submitted at said election as to voting of bonds. (Stats. 1925, p. 557.)

**Order Establishing District.**

SEC. 11. Within ten (10) days after such election has been held and the result thereof determined, and declared, it shall be the duty of the governing board of each petitioning constituent district or unit, to have the secretary of said governing board certify to the said state irrigation board, the result of such election, and whether or not said bonds have been voted, and whether or not the constituent district or unit represented by said governing board, has voted in favor of, or against the organization of said conservation district. Within ten (10) days after the state irrigation board receives the said certificates from all of the petitioning units or districts, said board shall enter an order that a conservation district is established comprising only those districts which have voted both in favor of the organization of said conservation district and in favor of the bonds at the election held for that purpose; provided, that such districts represent eighty-five per cent or more of the apportionment of the project as made in accordance with the provisions of section 8 of this act.

Said irrigation board shall also in said order apportion to the districts or units voting in favor of organization and for bonds that portion of the water storage capacity and of the waters stored or to be stored or developed, and all power developed or to be developed which it had theretofore apportioned to the districts or units voting against organization or bonds, such apportionment to be made to the districts or units entitled thereto in proportion to the apportionment theretofore made to them.

A certified copy of said order shall be served upon the secretary or other officer of the governing board of each of said constituent districts or units, and a copy thereof, duly certified, shall be recorded by said state irrigation board, in the office of the county recorder of each of the counties in which any of the lands, included in said water conservation district, are situated.

The board of directors of each constituent district or unit shall enter upon its minutes the certified copy of said order so received by it.

The state irrigation board shall also, in said order establishing said water conservation district, divide said water conservation district into three, five, seven, nine or eleven subdivisions, as is most practicable, which said subdivisions shall be designated by number, and in making such subdivisions, the said board shall make the same as nearly equal in acreage as is practicable; provided, however, that districts or units or parts thereof, created or formed under different laws or acts of the legislature, shall not be joined or united into one subdivision.

A majority of the votes cast at such election in each particular constituent district or unit shall be required to carry the election in said district or unit in favor of the organization of a water conservation district. (Stats. 1925, p. 557.)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Government of District; Election of Directors.

SEC. 12. Such water conservation district shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of one director elected from each of said subdivisions in the manner herein provided. The state irrigation board shall give notice of an election to be held in each subdivision of such water conservation district within sixty days after the making of said final order establishing said district, for the purpose of electing a director from each subdivision, and shall fix and establish in said notice a convenient number of election precincts in each subdivision of said water conservation district, and define the boundaries thereof, and at least one precinct must be established for each subdivision of said water conservation district. There shall also be designated in said notice, a voting place or places in each subdivision and a board of election consisting of one clerk, one inspector and two judges for each voting place, the names of which said officers of election shall be specified in said notice. Said notice, as to the election in each subdivision, shall be posted in three public places in each election precinct, and published in a newspaper of general circulation published in each county in which any of the lands included within the boundaries of said water conservation district are situated, for at least two weeks prior to the date of said election.

Nominating petitions for directors to be elected at such election shall be filed with the state irrigation board in the manner hereinafter provided for filing of nomination petitions with the board of directors of a water conservation district.

As soon as the polls are closed, the election officers shall count votes cast at such election, and a certificate shall be drawn by said election officers stating the number of votes each candidate received, and the result of said election. The certificate as aforesaid shall be signed by an inspector and judge of such election board. The election returns shall be immediately delivered by the inspector or by some other safe and responsible carrier designated by said inspector to the secretary or other officer of the state irrigation board. No returns from election shall be set aside or rejected for want of form if they can be satisfactorily understood.

On the second Monday after such election the state irrigation board shall meet at its usual place of meeting to canvass the returns. If at the time of the meeting the returns from each precinct in the water conservation district in which polls were opened, have been received, the state irrigation board must then and there proceed to canvass the returns; but if all the returns have not been received, the canvass must be postponed from day to day until all the returns have been received, or until six postponements have been made. The canvass must be made in public and by opening the returns and ascertaining the vote of each subdivision of the water conservation district for each director thereof voted for, and declaring the result thereof. The secretary of the state irrigation board must immediately make out and deliver to each person elected a director of a subdivision of the water conservation district a certificate of election signed by him and authenticated with the seal of said board and shall designate a place within the boundary of the conservation district where the first meeting of said directors shall be held. (Stats. 1925, p. 560.)

### Organization of Board of Directors.

SEC. 13. The directors of a water conservation district shall at noon on the second Tuesday of the first month after their election and qualification meet and organize as a board, enter upon their official duties, elect one of their members as president and appoint a secretary and a treasurer, neither of whom shall be a member of said board, and all of whom shall hold office at the pleasure of the board. The board shall select and designate an office of the board, which shall be in one of the counties in which any of the lands of the water conservation district is situated, which shall also be the office of the district, at which the board shall thereafter hold its meetings.

The salary of the secretary and the treasurer and the amount of the bond to be given by each for the faithful performance of their duties shall be fixed by the board of directors. The board shall then proceed to classify themselves by lot into two classes as nearly equal in number as possible, and the term of office of the class having the lesser number shall expire at noon on the second Tuesday in March following the next general February election provided for in this section of this act and the term of office of the class having the greater number shall terminate at noon on the second Tuesday in March following the next general election thereafter.

An election which shall be known as the general water conservation district election, shall be held in each water conservation district on the first Wednesday in February of each odd-numbered year at which a successor shall be chosen to each director whose term of office shall expire at noon on the second Tuesday in March next thereafter. The term of office of each director of the district elected after the election on organization provided for in section 12 of this act shall be four (4) years or until his successor is elected and has qualified.

In case of vacancy in the office of director, the state engineer shall appoint some person qualified by law to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term. No director shall be elected by the water conservation district at large, but one director shall be elected from each subdivision to represent such subdivision.

Each director from each subdivision shall be a freeholder in the subdivision he represents.

A director or any other official of any constituent district or unit shall be eligible to hold the office of director of a water conservation district.

Within ten days after receiving their certificates of election or appointments herein provided for, each member of the board of directors shall take and subscribe the official oath, and file the same in the office of the board of directors, and execute the bond herein provided for. Each member of said board of directors shall execute an official bond in the sum of $5,000 which said bond shall be approved by a judge of the superior court of the county in which the office of the board is located, and shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder of such county, and filed with the secretary of said board, except that the official oath and bond of each director elected at the first election of directors shall be filed with the state irrigation board. All official bonds herein provided for shall be in the form prescribed by law for the official bonds of county officers and the premiums thereon may be paid by the water conservation district. (Stats. 1925, p. 562.)

### Nomination and Election of Directors.

SEC. 14. Not less than ten (10) days before the election of directors any ten (10) or more qualified voters in any subdivision of the water conservation district may file with the board of directors of the water conservation district a petition requesting that a certain person or persons specified in such petition be placed on the ballot as a candidate or candidates for the office named in the petition. The name or names proposed by the various petitions so filed, and no others, shall be printed on the ballot; but there shall be sufficient blank spaces left in which voters may write other names, if they so desire. The petitions shall be preserved in the office of the board of directors of the water conservation district.

Thirty days before an election to be held under section 13 of this act the secretary of the board of directors of a water conservation district shall cause notices to be posted in three public places in each election precinct of the time and place of holding the election, and shall also post a general notice of the same in the office of said board, which shall be established and kept at some fixed place to be determined by said board, specifying the polling places of each precinct. Prior to the time for posting the notices, the board must appoint for each precinct from the electors thereof a clerk, an inspector and two judges, who shall constitute a board of election for such precinct. If the board fails to appoint a board of election, or the members appointed do not attend at the opening of the polls on the morning of the election, the electors of the precinct present at that hour may appoint the board, or supply the place of an absent member thereof. The board of directors must, in its order appointing the board of election designate the house or place within the precinct where the election must be held.

The ballot used at the election of directors of a water conservation district, after the election of directors on organization, shall be provided by the board of directors of a water conservation district, and one of the judges of election at every election of directors of a water conservation district shall deliver to each of the qualified voters one of the ballots so provided. The ballots to be used in each subdivision for the election of a director from said subdivision shall have printed on them the names of all candidates whose name shave been filed as provided in this act, with a voting square behind each name; provided that the ballots in each subdivision of the water conservation district shall have on them the names of the persons to be voted for as director to represent that subdivision only.

As soon as the polls are closed, the election officers shall count the votes cast at such election, and a certificate shall be drawn by said election officers stating the number of votes each candidate received, and the result of said election. The certificate as aforesaid shall be signed by an inspector and judge of such election board. The election returns shall be immediately delivered by the inspector or by some other safe and responsible carrier designated by said inspector to the secretary or other officer of the water conservation district board. No returns from election shall be set aside or rejected for want of form if they can be satisfactorily understood. The board of directors of the water conservation district must meet at the usual place of meeting on the first Monday after election to canvass the returns. If, at the time of meeting, the returns from each precinct in the district in which the polls were opened have been received, the board of directors must then and there proceed to canvass the returns; but if all the returns have not been received the canvass must be postponed from day to day until all the returns have been received or until six (6) postponements have been made. The canvass must be made in public and by opening the returns and ascertaining the vote of each subdivision of the water conservation district for each director voted for and declaring the result thereof.

The person receiving the highest number of votes in any election held in a subdivision of a water conservation district for the election of directors shall be elected as director.

The secretary of the water conservation district must immediately make out and deliver to each person elected a director of a subdivision of the water conservation district a certificate of election signed by him and authenticated with the seal of said water conservation district.

At all elections held under the provisions of this act, including the election for organization of a water conservation district, the polls shall be opened at eight o'clock a.m. and remain open until six o'clock p.m. The inspector shall be chairman of the election board and may administer all oaths required in the process of an election; and appoint judges, if, during the progress of the election, any judge ceases to act. Any member of the board of election may administer and certify oaths required to be administered during the progress of an election. Before opening the polls, each member of the board must take and subscribe an oath to faithfully perform the duties imposed upon him by law. Any voter of the precinct may administer and certify such oath. The board of directors of a water conservation district shall establish a convenient number of election precincts in each subdivision of a water conservation district and define the boundaries thereof, and at least one such precinct must be established for each subdivision of said water conservation district, and said board whenever it is deemed advisable for the best interests of said district and the convenience of the voters may at any time, but not less than sixty days before an election to be held in the district, change the boundaries of any such election precincts, which changes when made must be entered upon the minutes of the board.

Except as herein otherwise provided, the manner of conducting and holding elections of a water conservation district, including the first election of directors, the qualifications of voters and the necessary number of votes to carry any proposition submitted at any election, shall be governed, as to each subdivision of said water conservation district, by the same laws, rules and regulations and amendments and modifications thereto of the particular district or districts, or unit or units, composing such subdivision. (Stats. 1925, p. 563.)

## ISSUANCE OF BONDS

### Rules and Regulations.

SEC. 15. Except as herein otherwise provided, all the laws, rules and regulations and amendments and modifications thereto governing the voting, issuance, sale, form, contents, terms and conditions of bonds of each particular unit or district in which the same are voted and issued shall apply to and govern the voting, issuance, sale, form, contents, terms and conditions of the bonds herein authorized.

Except as herein otherwise provided, the manner of conducting and holding elections, qualification of voters, the necessary number of votes to carry any proposition submitted at any election shall be governed by the same laws, rules and regulations and amendments and modifications thereto of the particular district or unit in which said election is held.

### Issuance and Sale of Water Storage District Bonds; Assessment of Costs.

SEC. 15a. Whenever at any election called pursuant to the provisions of section 10 of this act the majority of the votes cast in any water storage district unit of a proposed water conservation district shall be in favor of the organization of the proposed water conservation district, and also in favor of said water storage district unit issuing and selling bonds for the purpose of said proposed water conservation district, and the state irrigation board shall enter its order as in this act is provided, that said water conservation district is established, then the said election so held in any such water storage district unit shall be in all respects as effective to authorize a bond issue of any such water storage district unit as an election called and held under section 24 of the water storage district act, and the board of directors of such water storage district unit shall cause bonds in the amount stated in the order for such election, to be executed and delivered to the treasurer of said water storage district to the credit of the water conservation district fund of said water storage district unit in the manner and form and to the same effect as though said bonds had been authorized and issued after instead of before an assessment had been levied on the lands within such water storage district benefited by said water conservation district project in the amount stated in said order calling said election, which amount shall be that apportioned to such water storage district in the order of the state irrigation board apportioning to the several units in such proposed water conservation district its proportion of all the costs and expenses of the project of said proposed water conservation district.

The treasurer of such water storage district shall sell said bonds in the manner provided in section 24 of said water storage district act, and the proceeds of sale of said bonds shall be placed in the water conservation district fund of said water storage district. Any sale by such treasurer and delivery of the bonds thereunder shall be conclusive evidence in favor of the purchaser and all subsequent holders of the bonds, that such sale was made upon due authority and notice.

Whenever the state irrigation board shall have made its order that a water conservation district is established, with one or more water storage district units therein, the state engineer shall forthwith appoint three commissioners in each such water storage district unit, whose duty it shall be to assess the proportion of the costs of the water conservation district project apportioned to such water storage district unit by the state irrigation board in its final order of apportionment upon the benefited lands within such water storage district unit which shall be done in the same manner and with the same effect as though said project had been approved by a majority of the votes cast at an election called and held as provided in section 19 of said water storage district act. The state irrigation board shall furnish the board of directors of each water storage district unit two correct copies of the report and estimate required to be kept on file in the office of the state irrigation board by section 7 of this act and of the order required to be made by section eight of this act, and the said commissioners shall receive from the board of directors of the water storage district unit one of said copies in the place of the detailed plans, specifications and estimates of the costs of the project provided to be delivered to them by section nineteen of the water storage district act, and the rolls prepared by said commissioners when completed shall be accompanied by the written report of the commissioners wherein is set out with particularity the exact nature and quantum of the benefits so assessed to the benefited lands of the district in the project of such water conservation district apportioned and allotted to each such tract of land in said water storage district unit, including any benefits through any drainage or reclamation work connected therewith. In such report lands embraced within a comprehensive area or a political subdivision of the state may be referred to generally as lands lyng within such area or subdivision without further description. In other respects said rolls and report, and proceedings with relation thereto up to the filing of the same with the county treasurer, shall conform as near as may be to the requirements of said section 19 of said water storage district act.

When the board of directors of such water storage district unit shall file with the county treasurer of a county within such district the assessment list or roll as finally approved as provided in said water storage district act, the charges assessed thereby upon the several tracts of land within the county shall constitute a lien thereon, which shall be prior to all other liens except state, county and municipal taxes, and assessments or taxes levied or assessed by or under statutory authority, and shall impart notice thereof to all persons.

All moneys collected by a county treasurer upon any assessment levied as in this section provided, including all moneys derived from the sale of land for delinquent installments or from redemption thereof, or from the sale of lands bought by such treasurer at any such sale as trustee of the water conservation district bond fund of the water storage district, shall be by such treasurer forthwith paid into the county treasury of the county from which the same arose, to the credit of a water conservation district bond fund which shall be created by such water storage district, and shall be used exclusively for the payment of principal and interest of said bonds issued on account of said water conservation district bond fund. Where bonds of such water storage district have been issued as herein provided, no act or conduct on the part of the board of directors of said water storage district or any officer mentioned in said water storage district act, or in this act, shall invalidate any assessment herein authorized to be made after the same shall have become a lien in the manner herein provided.

It is the purpose of this section to provide that any water storage district which may become a unit in a water conservation district, may authorize a bond issue as in this act provided, before it shall have levied an assessment upon the benefited lands in said water storage district, and that it may thereafter, by proceedings hereunder, levy an assessment upon the benefited lands to secure the payment of the bonds so issued as herein provided, and this section shall be liberally construed to accomplish that purpose. (Added Stats. 1925, p. 565.)

### Issuance and Sale of Reclamation District Bonds; Assessment of Costs.

SEC. 15b. Whenever at any election called pursuant to the provisions of section 10 of this act the majority of the votes cast in any reclamation district unit of a proposed water conservation district shall be in favor of the organization of the proposed water conservation district, and also in favor of said reclamation district unit issuing and selling bonds in the amount allotted and apportioned to it by said state irrigation board for the purposes of said proposed water conservation district, and the state irrigation board shall enter its order, that said water conservation district be established, then the said election so held in any such reclamation district units shall be and the same is as effective to authorize the issuance of said bonds of any such reclamation district unit as an election called and held under section 3480 of the Political Code, and the board of trustees of such reclamation district unit shall cause bonds in the amount stated in the order for such election, to be executed and delivered to the treasurer of the county in which said reclamation district or the larger part thereof is situated in the manner and form provided by section 3480 of the Political Code, and to the same effect as though said bonds had been authorized and issued after instead of before an assessment had been levied on the lands within said reclamation district benefited by said water conservation district project. Said bonds and the proceeds thereof shall be held by said treasurer to the credit of said reclamation district in a fund to be known and designated as the water conservation district fund.

The treasurer of said county shall sell said bonds in the manner provided in section 3480 of the Political Code for the sale of the bonds of a reclamation district, and the proceeds of the sale of said bonds shall be placed in the treasury of said county to the credit of the water conservation district fund of said reclamation district. Any sale by such treasurer and delivery of the bonds thereunder, shall be conclusive evidence in favor of the purchaser and all subsequent holders of bonds that such sale was made upon due authority and notice.

Whenever the state irrigation board shall have made its order that a water conservation district is established with one or more reclamation district units therein, the board of supervisors of the county in which the said reclamation district or the greater part thereof is situated, shall forthwith appoint three (3) commissioners in each such reclamation district unit, who shall qualify as provided in section 3455 of the Political Code. Said commissioners shall assess the proportion of the costs of the water conservation district project apportioned to such reclamation district unit by the state irrigation board in its final order of apportionment upon the benefited lands within such reclamation district unit, which shall be done in the same manner and with the same effect as though the plan or plans of said water conservation district project had been prepared and approved in the manner provided in section 3455 of the Political Code, and no hearing on said plans shall be held by, and no approval of said plans shall be required or made by either the reclamation board of the Sacramento and San Joaquin drainage district or by the board of supervisors of the main county of said reclamation district, but the said election held in said reclamation district unit pursuant to the provisions of this act shall constitute a final approval of said project and of the part therein apportioned to said reclamation district unit.

The state irrigation board shall furnish the board of trustees of each reclamation district unit three (3) correct copies of the report and estimate required to be kept on file in the office of the state irrigation board by section 7, and three (3) copies of the order required by section 8 of this act. Said board of trustees shall file one of each of said copies of said report and order with the secretary of said reclamation district, one each of said copies with the clerk of the board of supervisors of the main county of said reclamation district, and the said commissioners shall receive from the board of trustees of the reclamation district unit one of said copies of said report and order in place of the plan or plans of the works of reclamation, and the estimation of the costs of the contemplated works of the district provided to be made and reported to the board of supervisors by section 3455 of the Political Code.

Said commissioners shall thereupon view and assess upon the land within said reclamation district unit the said sum apportioned to such reclamation district unit by the state irrigation board in its final order of apportionment, and shall apportion the same according to the benefits that will accrue to each tract of land in said irrigation district unit respectively by reason of the expenditures of said sums of money, and shall estimate the same in gold coin of the United States, and shall file with the clerk of the board of supervisors of the main county of said reclamation district an assessment list in the manner and form required by the Political Code for reclamation district assessments where the reclamation district is situated wholly outside of the Sacramento and San Joaquin drainage district. In addition to the matters required by the Political Code to be set forth in said assessment lists, said commissioners shall set forth in said lists the proportionate right of each assessed parcel of land in the share of said reclamation district unit in the project of said water conservation district.

The said board of supervisors shall thereupon appoint a time for hearing objections to the report and assessment lists of said commissioners; cause notice of said time and place of said hearing; hear and act on objections filed thereto until the amount of each assessment shall finally be fixed; shall then make an order approving said report and assessment list and shall endorse such order upon said assessment lists, which said endorsement shall be signed by the chairman of said board of supervisors and attested by the clerk thereof, all in the manner and form required by section 3462 of the Political Code for hearing, equalizing, adjusting and finally determining assessments of reclamation districts, and such decision of said board of supervisors shall be final and thereafter said assessment list shall be conclusive evidence that the said assessment list has been made and levied according to law, except in an action commenced as provided in section 3462 of the Political Code. The assessment lists shall then be filed with the county treasurer or if the reclamation district is situated in more than one county, then the original list must be filed with the county treasurer of the county where the greater portion of the lands of said district is situated, and copies thereof certified by the treasurer must be filed with the treasurer of each of the other counties. When the board of supervisors shall have finally taken action modifying or approving any assessment lists as provided herein and in section 3462 of said Political Code, the charges assessed thereby upon tracts of land within the county shall constitute a lien thereon and shall impart notice thereof to all persons, and in the event of the conveyance of a part of a tract of land in said district and in the absence of any provision in the instrument conveying the same, said lands so conveyed shall be deemed to share ratably in the benefits apportioned to the entire tract.

The sums so assessed must be collected and paid into the county treasury, as in section 3480 of the Political Code provided, and be placed by the treasurer to the credit of the water conservation district fund of said reclamation district unit for the purpose of paying the principal and interest of such bonds and for no other purpose. All proceedings for the sale of lands for delinquent assessments and the redemption of such lands shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 3480 of the Political Code.

Where bonds of such reclamation district unit have been issued as provided herein, no act or conduct on the part of the board of trustees of said reclamation district or any officer mentioned in article two, chapter one, title eight, part three of the Political Code or this act shall invalidate any assessment herein authorized to be made after the same shall have become a lien in the manner provided herein; but such trustees may be compelled by mandate or other proper proceedings to perform their duties as required by law.

It is the purpose of this section to provide that any reclamation district which may become a unit in a water conservation district may authorize a bond issue as in this act provided, before it shall have levied an assessment upon the benefited lands in said reclamation district, and that it may hereafter, by proceedings hereunder, levy an assessment upon the benefited lands to secure the payment of the bonds so issued as herein provided, and this section shall be liberally construed to accomplish that purpose. (Added Stats. 1925, p. 567.)

### Directors—Compensation and Meetings of.

SEC. 16. The directors when sitting as a board or acting under the orders of the board shall receive not to exceed ten (10) dollars per day and twelve (12) cents per mile for each mile traveled from his place of residence to the office of the board, such mileage to be computed by the shortest traveled route, and all necessary expenses paid while engaged in official business under orders of the board.

The board of directors shall hold a regular meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at the place selected as the office of the board; provided, that the board may, by resolution duly entered upon its minutes, fix any other time as the time for its regular monthly meeting, but no change in the time of holding regular meetings of the board shall be made until after the resolution proposing such change has been published once a week for two successive weeks in a newspaper published in the county in which the office of the district is located. Such special meetings of the board of directors may be held as may be required for the proper transaction of the business of the district, but a special meeting must be ordered by a majority of the board. The order must be entered of record, and three days notice thereof must be given by the secretary to each director not joining in the order. The order must specify the business to be transacted and no other business than that specified in the order may be transacted, at such special meeting, unless all the members are present and consent to the consideration of any business not specified in said order. All meetings of the board must be public and a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but on all questions requiring a vote, except a motion to adjourn, or a motion to adjourn to a stated time, there shall be a concurrence of at least the number constituting a quorum. A smaller number of directors than a quorum may adjourn from day to day. All records of the board shall be open to public inspection during business hours. Whenever any act is required to be done or proceeding taken by this act, or by an act supplemental or amendatory thereto, on the second Tuesday in any month, such act may be had or proceedings had upon the day specified in the resolution hereinbefore referred to as the time for the regular meeting of the board of directors.

### Water and Power Survey by Directors.

SEC. 17. The board of directors of a water conservation district shall, as soon as it is organized, proceed to make or cause to be made all such examinations, surveys, plans and specifications and estimates of costs for the acquisition, appropriation, diversion, storage, conservation and distribution of water, any drainage or reclamation works connected therewith and the generation of hydro-electric energy incident thereto and the sale and distribution thereof as may be necessary or requisite to enable said board to ascertain and estimate the requirements and works necessary for the purposes of said water conservation district, as prayed for in said petition and the cost and expense thereof, and to make a report thereof as herein provided.

In such connection said board may use and adopt all previous estimates, surveys, reports and other data it may have acquired or which are available to it adapted to that purpose, and may employ all necessary engineers, attorneys and other assistants for the accomplishment of said purposes, and the cost thereof shall be deemed a part of the expense of the water conservation district and shall be a legal charge against said water conservation district.

Upon the completion of said examination and study of the proposed project by said board, it shall prepare a report thereof in which report shall be set forth in detail the character and nature of the proposed works in order to carry said project to completion, such report to be accompanied by an estimate of the cost of said project. A copy of such report, plans and estimates shall be kept on file in the office of the board and open for inspection by all interested persons or parties. Such plans and reports may thereafter be modified at any regular meeting of the board by an affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of all the members of said board.

## POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS

### Management of Business Affairs.

Sec. 18. The board of directors shall have the power and it shall be its duty to manage and conduct the business affairs of the water conservation district; to adopt a seal; to make and execute all necessary contracts; to employ and appoint such agents, officers and employees as it may require and prescribe their duties and fix their compensation. The board shall have the right to enter upon any lands to make surveys, locate works or for any other necessary and lawful purpose. The board shall have the power to construct, maintain, improve and operate the necessary dams, reservoirs and works for the storage and distribution of water and any drainage, flood control and reclamation works connected therewith, and to provide for the generation and distribution of hydroelectric energy incidental to such storage and distribution.

The board shall also have the right to acquire by purchase, lease or contract, all lands, water, water rights or any use thereof or interest therein, and any other property or rights by it deemed necessary for the construction, maintenance, improvements and operation of the works or the carrying out of the project of the water conservation district, including the property and rights of private owners and stock of corporations.

Said board may also enter into, and do any act necessary or proper for the performance of, any agreement with any county, district, public corporation, or municipality of any kind, for any purpose appertaining to, or beneficial to, the project of the water conservation district, and may acquire the right to store water in any reservoir; or to carry water through any canal, ditch or conduit not owned or controlled by such water conservation district, and may grant to the owner or lessee of a right to the use of any water, permission to store such water in any reservoir of the water conservation district, or to carry such water through any canal, ditch or conduit of the water conservation district.

The said board is hereby authorized and empowered to take conveyances, leases, contracts or other assurances for all property acquired by it under the provisions of this act, in the name of such water conservation district, to and for the use and purposes herein expressed, and to institute and maintain all actions and proceedings, suits at law or in equity necessary or proper in order to fully carry out the provisions of this act; or to enforce, maintain, protect or preserve any and all rights, privileges and immunities created by this act or acquired in pursuance thereof. All contracts and other documents executed by the board shall be signed by its president and its secretary, under seal and in all actions, suits or proceedings the said board may sue, appear and defend in person or by attorneys and in the name of such water conservation district.

The said board shall have power generally to perform all such acts as may be necessary to fully carry out the provisions of this act.

### Eminent Domain; Rights of Way.

SEC. 19. The board of directors shall have the right and power to acquire by condemnation all lands, waters, water rights, or any use thereof, or interest therein, and any other property or rights, except the property or rights of the units thereof, by it deemed necessary for the construction, maintenance, improvement and operation of the works, or the carrying out of the project of the water conservation district. In the case of condemnation proceedings the board shall proceed in the name of the water conservation district under the provisions of section 14 of article one as amended of the constitution of the State of California, and title seven, part three of the Code of Civil Procedure of California, and all pleadings, proceedings and process in said title provided it shall be applicable to the condemnation proceedings hereunder.

The board of directors shall have power to construct the said works across or intersecting any stream of water, water course, street, avenue, highway, railway, canal, ditch, or flume, in such manner as to afford security for life and property; but said board shall restore the same, when so crossed or intersected, to its former state as near as may be, or in a sufficient manner not to have impaired unnecessarily its usefulness; and every company whose railroad shall be intersected or crossed by said works shall unite with said board in forming said intersections and crossings, and grant the privileges aforesaid; and if such railroad company and said board, or the owners and controllers of said property, thing, or franchise to be so crossed, can not agree upon the amount to be paid therefor, or the points or the matter of said crossings or intersections, the same shall be ascertained and determined in all respects as is herein provided in respect to the taking of land. The right of way is hereby given, dedicated, and set apart for the location, construction, and maintenance of said works over and through any of the lands which are now or may be the property of this state; and also there is given, dedicated, and set apart, for the uses and purposes aforesaid, all waters and water rights belonging to this state within the district.

### Contracts for Construction of Projects.

SEC. 19a. The board of directors shall proceed to carry out the project of the district in accordance with the plans and specifications of the duly approved and adopted report of the board.

When such work is to be done said board shall give notice by publication thereof in the county in which the office of said board is located once a week for four successive weeks, calling for bids for same. If less than the whole work provided for in said plans and specifications is to be done and advertised, the portion to be done must be particularly described in said notice. Said notice shall refer to the plans and specifications of the work to be done and state that the same can be seen at the office of the board and that the board will receive sealed proposals therefor, and that the contract will be let to the lowest responsible bidder, stating the time and place for opening said proposals, which at the time and place appointed shall be opened in public; and as soon as convenient thereafter the board shall let said work, either in portions or as a whole, to the lowest responsible bidder; or it may reject any and all bids and readvertise for proposals or may proceed to construct the works under its superintendence; provided, that in case of emergency or urgent necessity the board of directors, by unanimous vote of those present (provided there is a quorum present) at any regular or special meeting, may award contracts without advertising for bids, but the amount of said contract so awarded shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars ($50,000). All contracts for the purchase of material shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, provided the purchase price of such material is in excess of fifty thousand dollars ($50,000).

Any person or persons to whom a contract may be awarded shall enter into a bond, with good and sufficient sureties, to be approved by the board, payable to the water conservation district for its use, for twenty-five per cent of the amount of the contract price, conditioned for the full and faithful performance of said contract.

The work shall be done under the direction and to the satisfaction of and be approved by the board.

It shall be the duty of the board to see that all contractors doing work for the conservation district carry compensation insurance on all employees.

### Constituent Districts May Issue Bonds.

SEC. 20. Each of the constituent districts or units of a water conservation district is hereby expressly authorized to vote, issue and sell its bonds for the purposes herein provided in this act, and said bonds are to be in all respects of the same force and effect, and of the same priority as a lien on property as other bonds voted, issued and sold by such constituent district or unit under the particular law or laws governing the voting, issuance and sale of bonds by such constituent district or unit.

The board of directors of a water conservation district shall estimate and determine, in the manner provided in section 24 hereof, the amount of money required by such board of directors of the total sum originally voted by all the constituent districts or units, and said board of directors shall thereupon apportion and allot to each of said constituent districts or units its proportion of the cost of said project. Said apportionment shall be made upon the same basis as was provided for in the original apportionment of the cost made by the state irrigation board, and thereupon said board of directors shall, by resolution duly adopted and entered upon the minutes of said board, make requisition upon each of said constituent districts or units for its proportion of said cost, and a copy of said resolution, duly certified to, shall be served upon the secretary or other officer of the governing board of each constituent district or unit. (Stats. 1925, p. 570.)

## APPORTIONMENT AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS

### Assessments and Apportionment of Additional Expenses.

Sec. 21. If the amount originally contributed and paid into said water conservation district by said constituent districts or units shall be insufficient to complete the system and works of said project, the board of directors of said water conservation district, shall thereupon estimate and determine the amount required to complete said system and works, according to the original plans and specifications thereof, and shall thereupon apportion and allot to each of said constituent districts or units, its proper proportion of said additional cost of the completion of said system and works of said project; said apportionment shall be made upon the same basis as the original apportionment of the cost of construction of said system and works of said project, as is provided for in this act, and thereupon, the said board of directors shall, by resolution, duly adopted and entered upon the minutes of said board of directors of said water conservation district, make requisition upon each of said constituent districts or units for its proportion of said additional cost, and a copy of which said resolution, duly certified to, shall be served upon the secretary or other officer of the governing board of each constituent district or unit. Upon receiving said copy of said resolution, it shall be the duty of the governing board of each of said constituent districts or units, and each of said constituent districts or units is hereby given the power to levy, assess and collect an assessment in the amount called for by said resolution and requisition, which said amount shall be levied, assessed and collected in like manner as the levy, assessment and collection of assessments under the particular law or laws governing the levy, collection and assessment of assessments of each of the said respective constituent districts or units.

### Apportionment of Cost of Maintenance and Operation; Assessments; Bonds.

Sec. 22. The board of directors of said water conservation district is hereby expressly given the power, and it shall be its duty, from time to time, as occasion may require, to estimate and determine the amount of money required, after the completion of said project, for the maintenance, repair and operation of said system and works and also for the expenses of the management and operation of said water conservation district, and shall also fix and allot the proportion of said estimated amount to be borne or paid by each of said constituent districts or units, which said allotment or apportionment, shall be in the same proportion to each of said constituent districts or units, as the apportionment or allotment of the original cost of said project as hereinbefore provided for. The board of directors of the water conservation district shall thereupon, by resolution, entered in its minutes, make requisition upon each constituent district or unit, for its proportion of said additional cost and expense, a copy of which said resolution duly certified, shall be served upon the secretary or other officer of the governing board of each constituent district or unit.

Upon receiving said resolution, it shall be the duty of the governing board of each constituent district or unit, and each constituent district or unit is hereby given the power to levy, assess, collect and pay over to said water conservation district, the amount of its proportion of said additional cost and expense. Such assessments shall be levied, assessed and collected by each constituent district or unit in like manner as the levy, assessment and collection of assessments, under the particular law or laws, governing the levy, assessment and collection of assessments of each of the said respective constituent districts or units.

Each constituent district or unit, in lieu of levying, assessing and collecting an assessment for the purpose of raising funds to pay its amount or share of any apportionment or allotment, as provided for in section 21 of this act, may vote, issue and sell bonds for the purpose of raising said funds, and each of said constituent districts or units is hereby expressly given and granted the power to vote, issue and sell bonds for said purpose.

## CERTIFICATION OF BONDS

### Resolution of Board and Procedure.

Sec. 23. Whenever the board of directors of any constituent district or unit of a water conservation district, shall by resolution, declare that it deems it desirable that any contemplated or outstanding bonds of such constituent district or unit issued under the provisions of this act, including any bonds of such constituent district or unit authorized but not sold, shall be available, for the purpose provided for in section 7 of an act of the legislature of the State of California, entitled "An act relating to bonds of irrigation districts, providing under what circumstances such bonds shall be legal investments for funds of banks, insurance companies, and trust companies, trust funds, state school funds and any money or funds which may now or hereafter be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, school districts or municipalities, and providing under what circumstances the use of bonds of irrigation districts as security for the performance of any act may be authorized," approved June 13, 1913, as amended, the said board of directors shall thereupon file a certified copy of such resolution with the commission created by, and provided for in, said act of June 13, 1913, which commission, and the state controller in connection therewith, are hereby given the same power and authority in respect of the investigation and certification of bonds issued by any constituent district or unit, under this act as is given to them in respect of the investigation and certification of irrigation district bonds by said act, as amended, except as the same may be limited by, or inconsistent with, any provision of this act, and bonds of any constituent district or unit provided for in this act which have been so investigated and certified and by authority of such investigation and certification are declared to be legal investments for the purposes stated in said act of June 13, 1913, as amended, may be lawfully purchased, or received in pledge for loans by savings banks, trust companies, insurance companies, guardians, executors, administrators, and special administrators, or by any public officer or officers of this state or of any county, city, or city and county, or other municipal or corporate body within this state having or holding funds which they are allowed by law to invest or loan.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Estimate of Expenses.

SEC. 24. At its regular monthly meeting held in the month of June of each year, the water conservation district board shall estimate and determine the total amount of money that said water conservation district will need and require for the purposes provided by this act during the calendar year commencing with the first day of January next following such meeting; and determine in accordance with the provisions of this act the proportionate part and amount or sum of such total amount which each of its constituent districts or units shall pay. Within thirty days after the adjournment of its said meeting, the water conservation district board shall make or cause to be made in writing and served upon each of its constituent districts or units, a requisition for the payment by such constituent district or unit to said water conservation district of the proportionate share or amount of money to be paid by each such constituent district or unit. Each such constituent district or unit shall pay to the water conservation district one-half of the amount for which requisition has been made upon it as aforesaid on or before the first day of January next following the date of such requisition and the other one-half thereof on or before the first day of July next following first payment. (Stats. 1927, p. 431.)

### Claims.

SEC. 25. All claims against the water conservation district shall be paid by warrants of said water conservation district. Said warrants must be signed by the president and secretary of the board and drawn on the treasurer of the conservation district and paid by him out of the funds of such conservation district and said treasurer shall make a monthly report to the board of the money received by him of the amounts expended and the total sum on hand.

### Directors Not to Be Interested in Contracts.

SEC. 26. No director or officer of the conservation district shall in any manner be interested directly or indirectly in any contract awarded or to be awarded by the board, or in the profits to be derived therefrom; and for the violation of this provision such director or officer shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and conviction shall work a forfeiture of his office, and he shall be punished by a fine, not to exceed five thousand dollars, or for imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

### Debts.

SEC. 27. The board of directors or other officers of a water conservation district shall have no power to incur any debt or liability whatever, either by issuing bonds, or otherwise, in excess of the express provisions of this act; any debt or liability in excess of such provisions shall be and remain absolutely void; provided, that nothing contained in this section shall be construed as limiting the right of the board to enter into any contract for the use or lease of any lands, water, water rights, or other property, as in this act provided and by such lease or contract to bind the district for the payment of the rentals or consideration specified in such lease or contract.

### Distribution of Water and Power; Sale of Surplus.

SEC. 28. The board shall have power and it shall be its duty to distribute to each of the units of a conservation district the proportion of stored water to which it is entitled at its point of diversion from the stream, and may use a stream or natural water course for such purpose. The board shall also have power and it shall be its duty to distribute to the units of a conservation district the proportion of hydroelectric energy to which it is entitled and may desire for its use within such unit, same to be delivered at the place where it is generated; and all hydroelectrical energy not so distributed shall be sold by the board of directors of the conservation district, and the proceeds resulting from such sale shall be distributed to the units in accordance with their respective interests therein.

### Limitations on Board of Directors.

SEC. 29. The board of directors of a water conservation district shall not have the power to modify, change or alter the distributing system or works of any of the constituent districts or units nor shall said board of directors have any jurisdiction or control over the distribution of water to the land owner within the boundaries of any of the constituent districts or units. Nor shall said board have the power to condemn by law the water, water rights or other property of a constituent district or unit without first having obtained a written consent of the managing board of such constituent district or unit.

### Paramount Interest of State; Tax Exemption.

SEC. 30. The rights of way, ditches, flumes, pipelines, drains, water rights, reservoirs and other property used for the purposes of a water conservation district and belonging to it shall not be taxed nor assessed for state, county or municipal purposes.

It is hereby declared that the State of California has a paramount interest in the storage, conservation and diversion of water, the prevention of floods, the irrigation, drainage, and reclamation of land and the production of electric energy; and that such storage, conservation, diversion, irrigation, prevention of floods, reclamation, drainage, and production of electric energy will make productive vast quantities of land that are comparatively unproductive and will increase production, property valuations and population in the state, make profitable the cultivation of small tracts and promote subdivision of larger tracts, and will promote the welfare and prosperity of all the people. The powers herein conferred upon the state irrigation board and the board of directors of a water conservation district and all other powers herein conferred are hereby declared to be police and regulatory powers and are necessary to the accomplishment of a purpose that is indispensable to public interests. The use of all water required for the irrigation of the lands of any district formed under the provisions of this act and for domestic and other incidental and beneficial uses within such district, together with the rights of way for canals and ditches, sites for reservoirs and all other property required in fully carrying out the provisions of this act is hereby declared to be a public use, subject to the regulation and control of the state, in the manner prescribed by law.

### Records, Statements and Reports.

SEC. 31. The state irrigation board and the board of directors of every water conservation district shall, respectively, cause to be entered in books to be kept for that purpose a complete and connected record of all their acts and transactions, which shall be kept and preserved on file in their respective offices and open to inspection by the public during business hours. Said records and all documents, instruments, or other papers filed as above provided, or a copy or copies of any thereof certified to by the secretary of the state irrigation board or the secretary of the board of directors of the water conservation district, shall be received in evidence without further proof in any court of this state, or before any board or tribunal authorized to hear or consider a matter wherein the same shall be properly admissible in evidence.

During the construction of any works in carrying out the project of any water conservation district, the board of directors of such district shall, at least every sixty (60) days, forward to the state engineer, a report of the progress of such construction, together with a statement of the amount or amounts paid for the doing of such work. The board of directors of a water conservation district, at their regular monthly meeting in January of each year, shall render and immediately thereafter, cause to be published in the county where the office of said board is situated, at least once a week, for two successive weeks, a verified statement of the financial condition of the district, showing particularly the receipts and disbursements of the last preceding year, together with the source of such receipts and the purpose of such disbursements.

Immediately after the publication of such statements, the board of directors of the water conservation district shall cause a copy thereof accompanied by a report stating the progress of the work under construction and the general condition of the project, and whether or not the same is being satisfactorily and successfully carried out and any other matter which the board may deem proper to be filed with the state engineer who shall examine said statement and report and make to the board of directors such recommendations and comments as he may deem proper and may publish said recommendations and comments in such manner as may be deemed advisable. Said state engineer may at any time make or cause to be made an examination of the affairs of any water conservation district within the state or call upon the board of directors of such district for such information as he may desire, and may make and publish such report thereon as he may deem advisable.

(NOTE.—No section 32 appears in the act as enacted.)

### Property of District.

SEC. 33. The legal title to all property acquired under the provisions of this act shall by operation of law, immediately upon the acquisition thereof, vest in the water conservation district by which it is acquired, and shall be held by such district in trust for the uses and purposes set forth in this act, and is hereby dedicated and set apart to said uses and purposes. The board of directors is hereby authorized and empowered to hold, use, manage, occupy, and possess said property and may determine by resolution duly entered upon its minutes, that any property, real or personal, held by the district is not necessary for the uses and purposes thereof and may sell the same for an adequate consideration; and a conveyance or transfer of any of the property of a district executed by the president and secretary of its board of directors in pursuance of a resolution of the board adopted as above provided, shall convey good title to the property.

### Vested Rights.

Sec. 34. Nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as to affect or impair the vested right of any person, association, or corporation to the use of water.

### Title.

Sec. 35. This act shall be known and may be referred to in any action, proceeding, or legislative enactment, as the "California water conservation district act."

### Constitutionality.

Sec. 36. If any section, subdivision, sentence, clause, or phrase of this act be for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act, and the Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this act and each and every other section, subdivision, sentence, clause, and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, or phrases of this act be declared unconstitutional.

### Proceedings Contesting Validity of Formation.

Sec. 37. Actions or proceedings contesting or attacking the validity of the formation of a water conservation district can only be commenced within thirty days from the date of the making by the state irrigation board of the final order establishing such water conservation district, as provided in section 11 hereof.

Actions or proceedings attacking or contesting the validity of any bond issue provided for in this act can only be commenced within thirty days after the declaration of the result of such election at which such bonds were voted.

Except as herein provided, actions or proceedings attacking or contesting any election under the provisions of this act can only be commenced within thirty days after the declaration of the result of such election. (Added Stats. 1925, p. 571.)

## CHAPTER VI

## CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT ACT

**Preliminary Statement.**

This act was passed in 1913 and amended in 1917, 1921, 1927, 1929 and 1931. A water district is formed on petition to county board of supervisors by the holders of title or evidence of title to the majority in area of the lands proposed to be included. After a hearing, if the petition is found sufficient, a special election on organization is called by the supervisors.

Qualified voters are holders of title or evidence of title within the proposed district, and are entitled to one vote for each one dollar's worth of land so included. After organization the directors must adopt by-laws for the control of the district, which must be approved by county board of supervisors. Lands only are subject to assessments. No bonds can be issued except through the approval of the California districts securities commission.

A district organized under this act may either construct irrigation works or contract for their construction with an irrigation or drainage district. It may sell or lease any property or rights belonging to the district, or it may contract with the United States, the State of California, or any subdivision of the state for any works required by the district, including hydroelectric development. All such contracts, however, must be approved by the districts securities commission.

### THE CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT ACT

*An act providing for the organization of water districts by the board of supervisors of the different counties of the state upon petition therefor by the land owners; providing for the joint government and control thereof by the land owners thereof and the board of supervisors of the county in which the same are formed; relating to the functions, purposes, powers, duties, organization, government and control of water districts, and the election, appointment, qualifications, tenure, compensation, functions, powers, duties and jurisdiction of the officers and employees thereof, and the jurisdiction and supervision of county boards of supervisors thereover and the fees of county officers; providing for the acquisition, construction, maintenance and operation by said district of irrigation works, for the irrigation of the lands embraced therein and for the securing, use, distribution and apportionment thereby of water for irrigation purposes; providing for the payment of the debts thereof by a tax levied on the lands embraced therein; relating to the incurrence, payment and discharge of debts and obligations thereof, and the assessment, fixing of rate, levy and collection of taxes therefor; providing for the issuance and sale of bonds thereby; providing for the acquisition, use, transfer, disposition and sale of property and* *property rights thereof and the making of contracts, leases and agreements in respect thereto; providing for the transfer of the properties of such districts to any reclamation, drainage or irrigation project and the execution of contracts providing for such transfer in exchange for the right to receive and use water; providing for the approval of the California bond certification commission of such contracts or transfers: providing that said bonds and contracts or transfers may be investigated by the California bond certification commission; providing for the approval of said bonds and such transfers, or contracts providing therefor by the California bond certification commission in case said investigation is favorably reported and that thereafter said bonds may be lawfully purchased, or received in pledge as security for any money or deposits or for the performance of any act, by banks, banking institutions, insurance companies, trust companies, guardians, executors, administrators and special administrators: providing in certain cases for the transfer of districts from the supervision of one county board of supervisors to another; providing for the dissolution of said districts for nonuser of corporate power: and providing for the annexation of lands to and the exclusion of lands from such districts and providing a short title for this act.*

(Approved June 13, 1913, Stats. 1913, p. 815; amended Stats. 1917, p. 1408; 1921, p. 1142; 1927, pp. 8, 1534; 1929, p. 1469; 1931, pp. 784, 1722; title amended, Stats. 1929, p. 1470; Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

## ORGANIZATION

### Organization of Water Districts. Petition. "Evidence of Title."

SECTION 1. The holders of title or evidence of title to a majority in area of lands which form a contiguous body and which are susceptible of irrigation from a common source and by the same system of works may propose the organization of a water district by signing and presenting to the board of supervisors of the county in which the lands or the greater part thereof are situated, at any of its regular meetings, a petition setting forth the following facts,—that they propose to form under the provisions of this act a water district to be known as the "(---------) water district"; a description of the boundaries thereof, specifying the county or counties in which the lands are located; the number of acres in the proposed district; the place where the principal business thereof is proposed to be transacted; and the source or sources (which may be in the alternative) from which said lands are proposed to be irrigated. The words "title or evidence of title" as used in this section include the possessory rights of entrymen or purchasers of public lands under any law of the United States or of this state whether evidenced by receipts or otherwise. The records of the United States land office for the district in which said lands are located; the records of the state land office; and the records in the office of the county recorder of the county in which said lands are situated shall be conclusive evidence of ownership for the purposes of this section. (Stats. 1927, p. 1535.)

### Limit of Authority to Issue Bonds.

Sec. 1a. No water district organized under the terms of this act may issue bonds in excess of such an amount as may be authorized and designated by the California bond certification commission created by the act entitled "An act relating to bonds of irrigation districts, providing under what circumstances such bonds shall be legal investments for funds of banks, insurance companies and trust companies, trust funds, state school funds and any money or funds which may now or hereafter be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school districts or municipalities, and providing under what circumstances the use of bonds of irrigation districts as security for the performance of any act may be authorized," approved June 13, 1913, or such other state commission, department or agency that may supersede said commission or succeed to its functions. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 1722.)

### Publication of Petition. Fixing of Boundaries. Calling of Election on Organization.

Sec. 2. Said petition shall be accompanied with an undertaking in a sum not less than one thousand dollars, conditioned that the sureties will pay all of the costs in connection with the proposed organization in case said district shall not be organized. Said undertaking shall be subject to approval by said board of supervisors, which may require an additional undertaking if, in the judgment of said board, the costs in connection with the proposed organization will exceed one-half of the amount of the undertaking submitted. Upon the approval by said board of said undertaking or of any additional undertaking which the board may at that time require, the board shall fix a time for the hearing of said petition, which shall be not less than twenty-two days and not more than forty days thereafter, and the clerk of said board shall cause a notice of the filing of said petition and of the time and place for said hearing to be published at least once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the lands within said proposed district are situated, or in each county in which any of the lands within said proposed district are situated if said proposed district includes land in more than one county. Said notice shall state the fact of the presentation of said petition to said board of supervisors and the time and place fixed by said board for the hearing thereof, and shall set forth the text of said petition and shall give the names attached to said petition. No mere clerical error in the published text of the petition and no error in the publication of such names and no omission of any name from the list so published shall invalidate any action on said petition or deprive the board of supervisors of jurisdiction to proceed in said matter. The first publication of said notice shall be at least twenty-one days before the day set for said hearing, and if at said hearing it shall appear that the notice given has been defective in any material respect, said board shall set another time for said hearing and cause notice again to be published as hereinbefore provided. At the hearing the board shall hear all relevant evidence in support of said petition or in opposition thereto or in support of or in opposition to requests for inclusion of lands in or exclusion of lands from said proposed district. During or prior to said hearing any holder of title or evidence of title to lands within said proposed district may present to said board a request for exclusion of such lands or any part thereof from said proposed district, and any holder of title or evidence of title to land not within said proposed district but contiguous to any part thereof and susceptible to irrigation from the sources or any of the sources named in said petition may present to the board a request in writing for the inclusion of said land in said proposed district. If, upon the hearing of said petition, it shall be shown to the board that said petition conforms to the requirements of this act and that notice of said hearing has been given as hereinbefore required, the board shall proceed to fix the boundaries of said proposed district, and in so doing shall exclude therefrom any land which the board shall find is not susceptible of irrigation from any of the sources proposed or will not be benefited by such irrigation and, upon application of the owner or owners, may include in such proposed district any lands which are susceptible of irrigation from the source or sources proposed in said petition and will be benefited thereby, if in the judgment of said board said proposed district will have or may obtain a sufficient supply of water for the irrigation of such land proposed to be included. The hearing of said petition may be continued by said board from time to time, but such hearing shall not be continued after thirty days from the time originally fixed therefor, except from day to day, if any petitioner shall object to such continuance. When said board shall have determined upon the lands to be included within said proposed district, it shall make an order establishing and describing the exterior boundaries thereof and describing any lands within said boundaries which are to be excluded from the district, and designating a name for said district, which may be the name proposed in said petition or such other name as the board may determine. Said order shall be entered in full upon the minutes of said board. A finding of the board of supervisors in favor of the genuineness and sufficiency of the petition and notice shall be final and conclusive against all persons except the State of California in a quo warranto proceeding brought by the attorney general. Any such proceeding must be commenced before the commencement of such a proceeding as is provided for in section 3 hereof, or within one year after the making and entry of the said order of the board of supervisors if such latter proceeding is not instituted, and not otherwise.

After making and entering such an order defining and establishing the boundaries of the proposed district, said board of supervisors shall forthwith call and give notice of an election to be held in such proposed district for the purpose of determining whether or not the same shall be organized under the provisions of this act and for the selection of a board of directors, a tax collector, a treasurer, and an assessor to serve in case said organization shall be effected. Said notice shall be published once a week for at least three weeks previous to such election, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the lands within said proposed district are situated or in each county in which any of the lands within said proposed district are situated, if said proposed district includes land in more than one county, shall describe the boundaries so established, shall designate the name of the proposed district, and shall state that at said election the voters possessing the qualifications prescribed by this act shall cast ballots for or against said proposed organization and shall select a board of directors, a tax collector, a treasurer, and an assessor to serve in case said organization shall be effected; provided, nothing in this act nor in any other act shall be construed as preventing or limiting the right of the holder of title or evidence of title of any tract of land within any water district formed under the provisions of this act, from petitioning for inclusion or prohibiting such lands from being included, within any irrigation district organized under the California irrigation district act, in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of said California irrigation district act, but such inclusion shall not be made unless it shall appear and the board of directors of the irrigation district, within which such lands are about to be included, shall find that the water district within which such lands are situated shall have been in existence not less than five years immediately preceding the date of the filing of the petition for inclusion with the secretary of the board of directors of the irrigation district, and that at the date of the filing of such petition such water district shall not be delivering and is not preparing to deliver water from its irrigation works to such lands for irrigation purposes; provided that no lands within such water district so included within the boundaries of an irrigation district shall be released from any of the burdens, obligations, or liabilities of such water district, because of such inclusion within an irrigation district, but shall, so far as such inclusion is concerned, continue to be in all respects a part of such water district. Where a consolidation of officers as hereinafter provided for is deemed advisable in the organization of a district, the petitioners may request in their petition for organization such consolidation, and the board of supervisors calling the election shall in its order therefor announce such consolidation, and then only one person shall be elected to fill the several offices so consolidated. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Tax for Preliminary Expenses.

SEC. 2a. Immediately upon the formation of the district as provided in section 2 hereof, the board of directors of the district shall have the power to levy and collect the sum of fifty cents per acre for each and every acre of land within the district and all such moneys thus collected shall be used by the board of directors to pay the preliminary expenses incurred in forming the district. (Stats. 1921, p. 1143.)

### Canvass of Election Returns.

SEC. 2b. At such election there shall be elected a board of five directors, a tax collector, a treasurer, and an assessor. The board of supervisors shall designate the polling place for such election and appoint from the persons eligible to the office of district director one inspector and two judges of election, who shall constitute a board of election for such district election. For the convenience of voters the board of supervisors may divide the proposed district into election precincts and establish the boundaries of such precincts, and in such case shall appoint a board of election as aforesaid for each precinct, and designate a polling place therein. The said election shall be held and the result thereof determined and declared as nearly as may be in accordance with the provisions of sections 22, 23 and 24 of this act relating to district elections; provided, that at such election the last equalized assessment roll or rolls of the county or counties within which any of the lands within said proposed district are situated shall be used in lieu of the assessment book mentioned in section 22 of this act, and the returns of said election shall be forwarded to said board of supervisors, which shall meet on the second Monday following said election and canvass said returns and declare the results of said election. If by such canvass it appears that a majority of all the votes cast at such election are in favor of the organization of the district said board of supervisors shall by an order entered on its minutes declare the territory duly organized as a water district under the name theretofore designated, and said board shall cause certificates of election to be issued to the persons found to be chosen as directors, tax collector, treasurer and assessor of the district. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Filing of Order by Supervisors.

Sec. 2c. Said board of supervisors shall then cause a copy of such order duly certified to be immediately filed for record in the office of the county recorder in each county in which any portion of the lands embraced in such district are situated. From and after such filing, the organization of such district shall be complete. (Stats. 1927, p. 1539.)

### Term of Office of Directors and Assessor.

Sec. 2d. The officers elected at the election hereinbefore provided for shall immediately enter upon their duties as such upon qualifying in the manner for such officers herein provided. Said officers shall hold office respectively for two years next succeeding their election and until their successors are elected and qualified. In each water district formed under this act there shall be an election every two years held at such time and place in the district as shall be provided in the by-laws of the district, at which election an assessor, a tax collector, a treasurer, and five directors shall be elected, to hold office for two years and until their successors are elected and qualified. The board of directors may, in its discretion, consolidate any two or more of the offices of assessor, tax collector, and treasurer. The order of consolidation must be made at least thirty days prior to such election; provided, that the board of directors may, at least thirty days before any succeeding election of the district, where the offices have been consolidated, segregate the same. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Determination of Legality of District.

Sec. 3. Any district formed hereunder, in order to determine the legality of its existence, may institute a proceeding therefor in the superior court of the county in which it was organized by filing with the clerk of said county a complaint setting forth the name of the district, its exterior boundaries, the date of its organization and a prayer that it be adjudged a legal water district formed under the provisions of this act. The summons in such proceeding shall be served by publishing a copy thereof once a week for four weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located. Within thirty days after the last publication thereof shall have been completed and proof thereof filed with the complaint any person interested may appear and answer said complaint, in which case said answer shall set forth the facts relied upon to show the invalidity of the district. If no answer shall be filed within said time the court must render judgment as prayed for in the complaint. If an answer be filed the court shall proceed as in other civil cases. Said proceeding is hereby declared to be a proceeding in rem and the judgment rendered therein shall be conclusive against all persons whomsoever and against the State of California.

**By-Laws. Evidence of Ownership.**

Sec. 4. The district must adopt for the government and control of its affairs a code of by-laws, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the state or the provisions of this act. Sixty days after they shall have qualified for office the board of directors shall prepare by-laws for the written approval of the board of supervisors of the county in which the district was organized, and, when said by-laws are approved, shall adopt the same by resolution entered in the minutes of the meeting, unless, prior thereto, by-laws shall have been adopted and filed with the secretary of the district by the written assent of the holders of title or evidence of title, including such aforesaid possessory rights, to a majority in area of the lands embraced in said district. The records of the United States land office for the district in which said lands are located; the records of the state land office; and the records in the office of the county recorder of the county in which said lands are situated shall be conclusive evidence of ownership for the purposes of this section. The by-laws shall provide for: the manner of calling, and the time, place and manner of conducting all elections and the manner of giving notice thereof; the mode of voting in person or by proxy; the qualifications and duties of officers, the tenure of their office, the time and manner of their appointment or election; their compensation; the place at which the office of the district shall be kept and maintained and the mode of changing the same; the mode of amending or repealing the by-laws and suitable penalties for the violation of the by-laws not to exceed in any one case two hundred dollars for any one offense. The by-laws may be repealed or amended, or new by-laws may be adopted by the assent of two-thirds of the total vote of the district, given either in writing or by ballot cast at an election of the district. The by-laws in their original form, and any repeal thereof, or amendment or addition thereto, must, together with the approval of the board of supervisors and the resolution of the directors, or the written assent thereto or a memorandum of the returns of the electon at which the assent was given, be certified by a majority of the directors and the secretary of the district and must be filed for record with the county recorder of each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located and by him recorded in a book kept by him for the purpose of recording instruments and writings relating to said district. Until so recorded, no by-law, addition thereto, amendment or repeal thereof, can be enforced against any person not having actual notice of the same. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

## OFFICERS—POWERS AND DUTIES

### Officers of District. Vacancies. Salaries.

SEC. 5. The officers of the district shall be a board of five directors, a secretary, a tax collector, a treasurer, and an assessor, all of whom shall, except as herein otherwise provided, be elected by ballot, except the secretary who shall be appointed by the board of directors. No person shall be qualified to hold any of said offices, except that of secretary, unless he is a holder of title or evidence of title, including such aforesaid possessory rights, to lands contained in the district. Each appointee to office or officer-elect shall forfeit his office unless within ten days after he has notice of his election or appointment or before the expiration of ten days from the commencement of his term of office, when no such notice is given, he shall have filed for record with the county recorder of each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located, a written acceptance of his office which shall be recorded in a book kept for the purpose of recording instruments and writings relating to the district. If any office shall become vacant by forfeiture, death, resignation, or from any other cause, the same shall be filled by appointment by the board of directors. Until such time as their salaries shall have been fixed by the adoption of by-laws, the officers of the district shall receive the following compensation for their services: the secretary, tax collector, treasurer and assessor such sum each as shall be fixed by the board of directors; and the directors five dollars each for each directors' meeting attended or for each day's service rendered as a director by order of the board of directors, together with any expenses incident to such service, except expenses incurred in traveling between his place of residence and the place at which directors' meetings are held.

Upon the taking effect of this amendatory act of 1931, said board shall appoint a tax collector and a treasurer or said board may consolidate said offices and fill such consolidated office and thereupon the county treasurer, county tax collector and county auditor shall immediately transfer and turn over to the appropriate district officers all moneys, books, records, papers, and documents belonging to or appertaining to the district. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Organization of Board; Meetings, Etc. Quorum. Records Open to Inspection.

SEC. 6. The board of directors shall choose from among its members a president; shall appoint the secretary of the district; shall select and maintain an office for the district in the principal place of business thereof and shall hold regular meetings therein at such time and place as may be agreed upon by resolution adopted, and shall hold therein such other meetings as, from time to time, may be deemed advisable; provided, that no meetings, except regular meetings, shall be valid unless prior thereto each director shall have filed with the secretary his written consent to the same, or unless the president, or three members of the board of directors, shall have called the same by giving each of said directors five days' written notice thereof, or unless said directors shall have authorized the same by resolution adopted at a former meeting and shall have caused five days' written notice thereof to be given by the secretary to each director not joining therein. A majority of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The vote of a majority of those present at any meeting where a quorum is had shall be necessary to determine any proposition or resolution presented. The secretary shall keep a record of all the proceedings had at meetings of the board of directors. The books, maps, papers, contracts, records and other documents pertaining to the affairs of the district shall be filed in the office of the district with the secretary and must be open to inspection at all times by any persons interested.

### Duties and Powers of Board. Not to Let Contracts Until Bonds Are Sold.

SEC. 7. The board of directors shall have the power and it shall be its duty to manage and conduct the business and affairs of the district; to make and execute all necessary contracts; to employ and appoint such agents, officers and employees as may be required, and prescribe their duties. The board of directors shall also have the right and power to acquire, plan, construct, maintain, improve, operate and keep in repair the necessary irrigation works, dams, reservoirs, canals and works for the storage and distribution of water, to supply the lands contained within the district with sufficient water for irrigation purposes, and any drainage or reclamation works connected therewith or incidental thereto; to acquire by purchase, condemnation or other legal means all water, water rights, lands, properties or rights in properties necessary or proper therefor, within or without the district in this state. Said board shall also have power for a valuable consideration to lease or sell or contract for the sale of any property of any kind or rights therein including irrigation works, easements, rights of way, water, water rights, canals, distributing systems, or any other property belonging to the district whenever the same may be necessary or advisable or for the best interests of the district, and to enter into any and all contracts, agreements and obligations with any irrigation or drainage district organized under the laws of the State of California as the board of directors shall deem proper or advisable in the interests of the district, or to carry out or execute any of the purposes authorized or permitted by the provisions of this act and particularly to enter into any contract or agreement with the United States, or the State of California, or any department or agency of either, or with any political subdivision of said state including irrigation and reclamation districts for the storage, regulation, control, development and distribution of water for the irrigation of lands within said district or for the use, control and distribution of any and all drainage waters within said district, or for the construction, extension, operation, control, maintenance and management of any works or other property constructed or acquired by the district, or over which it may have control, or which may be used or useful for the irrigation or drainage of lands within the district, or for providing or furnishing hydroelectric power, or for any one or more of said purposes, and to provide in any such contract or agreement that the lands included in any such water district shall be entitled upon the execution of said contract to become a part of any irrigation or drainage project or reclamation project operated directly or indirectly by or under the authority of the United States or the State of California, and to become entitled to receive water, electric power, drainage service or other works or property of such project, including revenues derived from any such work; the board of directors may provide in any such contract for the sale and conveyance to the United States, the State of California, or to any reclamation or irrigation project organized or operated by or under the authority of either thereof or to any irrigation or water district organized under the laws of the State of California on the condition that such district or project shall furnish water to said water district and upon such other terms and conditions as may be agreed upon; provided, however, that all such contracts and transfers shall be first approved by the California bond certification commission. Said board may also enter into any agreement and do any acts necessary or proper for the performance of such agreement for the transfer or delivery to such district of any irrigation system, canals, rights of way, or other property owned or acquired by said water district in exchange for the right to receive and use water or water supply to be delivered or furnished to said water district by the other party to said agreement; to take conveyances, contracts, leases or other assurances for property acquired by the district under the provisions of this act; to execute by its president and secretary all contracts, leases, conveyances and other documents necessary to carry out the duties and powers specified herein; to institute, maintain and defend in person, or by attorneys, all actions, proceedings or suits at law or in equity necessary or proper to carry out the provisions of this act, or to enforce, maintain, protect or preserve the rights, privileges and immunities created by or acquired in pursuance thereof; to establish, print and distribute among the land owners of the district equitable rules and regulations for the distribution of water; to enter, for the above purposes, either in person or by its agents or employees, in and upon any lands contained in the district; to employ or fix the salary of such persons as may be necessary or proper to fully carry out the uses and purposes of the district; and to do any other lawful thing necessary or proper to carry out the provisions of this act for the uses and purposes for which the district is formed; provided, however, that the board of directors shall not let, or enter into, a contract for the construction of irrigation works, nor shall said board of directors construct the same by employees of the district, if the cost thereof is paid out of the proceeds of bonds of the district, until an election has been called and held to determine whether or not bonds of the district shall be issued as provided in section 13 of this act. (Stats. 1929, p. 1471.)

## ASSESSMENTS

### Annual Estimate of Funds Needed.

Sec. 8. Between thirty and ninety days after the organization of the district, and between said dates annually thereafter, the board of directors must file with the clerk of the board of supervisors of the county in which said district was organized an estimate of the sum required by the district to discharge the unpaid matured obligations thereof at that date and the obligations thereof that will mature or that it is probable will be incurred and mature during the year next following, specifying that portion of said estimate which will be required for the payment of bonds and of the interest on bonds.

**Assessment.**

Between the date on which the district was organized and ninety days thereafter, and between said dates in each succeeding year, the assessor must view the lands of the district and assess each parcel or tract of land contained therein at its full cash value and said assessor must, within said time, file with the clerk of said board of supervisors, an assessment book with appropriate headings in which must be listed each parcel or tract of land within the district, specifying: (1) the name, if known (and if unknown, stating that fact), of the holder of title or evidence of title, including such aforesaid possessory rights, thereto; (2) the description thereof by legal subdivisions, metes and bounds, or other boundaries sufficient to identify the same; and (3) the value assessed thereon. If the district is contained in more than one county, then the assessment book shall be prepared with a separate part in a separate volume for the lands of each county.

**Hearing of Objections.**

Within sixty days after the said estimate and the said assessment list shall have been filed as above provided, the board of supervisors shall fix a time not less than twenty-two days and not more than forty days from the time of the meeting of said board of supervisors at which said date is fixed at which said board of supervisors acting as a board of equalization shall meet and hear any objections to the assessment as made. From the time of calling said meeting and until said meeting is held, and during the office hours of said board of supervisors, the assessment list shall be open to public inspection at the office of said board of supervisors. The clerk of said board of supervisors shall give notice of the time and place of said meeting, which shall be the regular meeting place of said board of supervisors, and of the time and place where said assessment list may be inspected by the public by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the lands of said district are situated, or in each county in which any of the lands within said district are situated, if said district includes land in more than one county. The first publication of said notice shall be at least fifteen days prior to the date fixed for said hearing. The said board of supervisors shall meet at said time and place for said hearing and shall hear all objections which may be presented to it regarding the correctness of said assessment list, and shall hear all relevant testimony presented in support of or in opposition to said objections, and shall continue in session from day to day until all said objections and such evidence have been heard and acted upon. Upon the completion of the hearing of all such objections and all evidence as provided herein the said board of supervisors shall add to or deduct from the valuation assessed to any tract or parcel of land such per centum thereof as shall be sufficient to raise it or reduce it to its full cash value and shall fix the full cash value of any lands contained in said district that shall not have been so assessed. Thereupon, and before said hearing is closed, the assessor shall have the total valuation of all the lands assessed extended into columns, added and a statement thereof made.

### Assessment Rate Fixed.

When said statement is completed, the board of supervisors must fix such ad valorem rate of taxation upon each hundred dollars in value of the lands so assessed as will raise the sums specified in said estimate. Any changes in or additions to said list shall be entered in said assessment book in the proper place therefor and the order therefor shall be indorsed on the margin of the entry and signed by the chairman and attested by the clerk of said board of supervisors and thereupon said board shall adjourn as a board of equalization and said hearing shall be deemed completed. Within ten days after the hearing is completed, the order of the board of supervisors approving the assessment, the statement of the assessor showing the total valuation of the property assessed, the order fixing the rate of taxation thereon, and the estimate of the sum required by the board of directors of the district for the expense thereof during the year next following shall be signed by the president and attested by the secretary of the district and shall be attached to the assessment book on the last volume thereof, unless the lands of the district are contained in more than one county, in which case a copy thereof shall be signed and attached in a similar manner to each separate part of the assessment book. Thereupon the assessment shall be deemed complete.

### Charge Against Each Parcel of Land Computed.

Within ten days after the assessment is completed, the assessor shall compute and charge in the assessment book in a place provided therefor in the record of each parcel or tract of land assessed the amount of the tax due thereon and shall file each said separate part of the assessment book with the tax collector of the district and thereafter the charges therein taxed shall be due and payable to the tax collector of the district.

### Appeal From Decision of Supervisors.

The various orders of the board of supervisors made at the hearing shall be final and when indorsed on or attached to the assessment book shall be conclusive evidence that the assessment was made and the tax levied in accordance with the law; provided, however, that any person interested in lands of the district and aggrieved by the decision of the board of supervisors may, in order to have said assessment, or the tax levied thereon, corrected, modified or annulled, institute an action therefor in the superior court of the county in which said district was organized.

### Time to Commence Action to Determine Validity of Assessment. Objection, How to Be Made.

No action to determine the validity in any respect of any such assessment, or tax levied thereon, shall be maintained unless the same shall have been commenced within thirty days after the assessment book, or each separate part thereof, is filed with said tax collector as above provided. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Assessment Lien on Property.

Sec. 9. From and after the filing of the assessment book, or each separate part thereof, with said tax collector, as provided in section 8 of this act, the charges therein taxed upon any tract or parcel of land within the district and any penalties added thereto as hereafter provided shall constitute a lien thereon and shall impart notice thereof to all persons. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Delinquency Notice. Publication.

Sec. 10. Within ten days after each tax shall have become due and payable, the assessor shall publish in some newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the district was organized, a notice stating that the same became due and payable on (inserting date) to the tax collector of the district and that unless paid within six calendar months from said date the same will become delinquent, an additional charge of ten per cent thereof added thereto and the delinquent property sold at public auction. The tax must be paid in United States gold coin and the tax collector must mark the date of payment in the assessment book opposite the name of the person paying, and must give to such person a receipt, specifying the property taxed, the amount of the charge thereon and the amount paid, and thereafter must pay the moneys so received to the treasurer of the district. As soon as possible after the tax shall become delinquent the assessment book and each separate part thereof shall be returned to the secretary of the district and the board of directors thereof shall publish once a week for three weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which said district was organized a notice containing a description of the delinquent property; the name, if known, and, if unknown, stating that fact, of the person to whom it is assessed; the amount of the taxes and penalties due thereon; and a statement that the delinquent property will be sold therefor in front of the courthouse of said county on a date therein stated, which must be not less than twenty-one or more than twenty-eight days from the first publication, unless an error is made in the publication and discovered prior to the sale, in which case the notice shall be republished in the same manner, specifying the sale for a date not less than twenty-one or more that twenty-eight days from the first republication. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Purchaser. Certificates of Sale. Redemption of Property. Deed After One Year. Sale by District Purchasing.

Sec. 11. At the time and place stated in said notice or at such other time (written notice whereof has been posted at the place of sale) to which the board of directors may have postponed it, not exceeding thirty days in all from the original date of sale, that person is the purchaser who will immediately pay in gold coin of the United States the delinquent tax and the penalty thereon for the smallest portion of the delinquent property, or in case an undivided interest is taxed, then the smallest portion of the interest. In case there is no purchaser in good faith for the same the whole amount of the delinquent property shall, for the amount of the tax and penalty thereon, be struck off to the district as the purchaser.

### Certificate of Sale.

A certificate of sale shall be executed in duplicate by the board of directors, one of which shall be delivered to the purchaser or to the district, if the property shall have been struck off to the district, and the other of which shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the property sold is located. The certificate shall be dated the day of the sale and shall specify—the description of the property sold; the name, if known, and if not, stating that fact, of the person to whom it was assessed; the fact that it was sold for the amount of the tax and penalty thereon, giving the amount and year of said tax; and the date on which the purchaser will be entitled to a deed.

### Certificates Recorded.

The recorder upon receiving the certificates of sale must, when he records the same, enter, in a book provided for that purpose and kept with the book provided for the purpose of recording instruments and writings relating to the district, a description of the land sold, corresponding with the description in the certificate, the date of sale, the name of the purchaser, and the amount paid. The entries in said book shall be numbered consecutively on the margin thereof and a corresponding number shall be indorsed on the certificate. At the time of the sale the board of directors shall indorse in the assessment book opposite the description of the property, the portion of the same sold for taxes and penalties, with the date of sale and name of purchaser and shall thereafter pay to the tax collector of the district the amount received on the sale thereof and shall return said assessment book, or any such separate part thereof, to the tax collector from whom the same was received. Thereupon the tax collector must pay the moneys so received to the treasurer of the district.

### Redemption of Property Sold.

Any person interested in any property sold may redeem the same within one year from the date of sale by paying in gold coin of the United States to the tax collector and in trust for the purchaser or his assignees, the amount for which the same was sold, together with interest thereon at the rate of two per cent per month from the date of sale, and the tax collector must give him a receipt therefor, specifying therein a description of the property redeemed, the name of the purchaser and the date of sale, and he shall credit the amount so paid to the purchaser and shall thereafter pay the same on demand to the purchaser or his assignee. The county recorder of the county in which is located the property redeemed shall, upon presentation of the tax collector's receipt for said amount, mark the word "redeemed," the date and by whom redeemed on both the record of the certificate of sale of said property and on the margin of the memorandum thereof made in the book kept for that purpose.

### Purchaser Entitled to Deed After One Year.

If no redemption shall be made within said one year, the purchaser, or the district, if said property shall have been sold to the district, shall be entitled to a deed executed by the board of directors, and said deed shall contain all the recitals of the certificate, and when duly acknowledged shall be (except as against actual fraud) conclusive evidence of the regularity of all proceedings from the assessment to the execution of said deed, inclusive, and said deed will convey to the grantee the absolute title to the lands described therein, free of all encumbrances, except state, county, municipal or subsequent district taxes, and except when the land is owned by the United States or this state, in which case it is the prima facie evidence of the right of possession.

All property sold for taxes to the district shall subsequently be assessed for district taxation as though it had never been sold, but it shall not again be sold for delinquent tax, as long as it is owned by the district.

### Sale by District Which Became Purchaser.

The title acquired by the district, in case it becomes the purchaser at a delinquent tax sale of the district, may be sold at public auction or private sale and conveyed by deed executed and acknowledged by the president and secretary of the district; provided, that authority to so convey must be conferred by resolution of the board entered on its minutes fixing the price, in the best interests of the district, at which such sale may be made. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Additional Assessment in Case of Failure or Error.

Sec. 12. If for any reason any tract or parcel of land contained within the district shall not have been charged with its portion of any tax levied, or if the tax levied on any tract or parcel of land shall be adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, then such tract or parcel of land shall at the hearing in any subsequent tax levy be additionally taxed and charged by the board of supervisors of the county in which said district was organized in a sum which bears the same proportion to the total amount of said former tax as its then assessed valuation bears to the total amount of the assessed valuation placed on all the lands in the district at the time said former tax was levied.

## BONDS

### Plan of Irrigation Works. Special Bond Election. Notice. Ballots.

Sec. 13. The board of directors shall, as soon after the organization of the district as is practicable, prepare and adopt a plan of irrigation works and shall estimate the cost of constructing the same and of acquiring the lands, property, property rights, water, and water rights necessary or proper therefor and to supply the lands contained in the district with sufficient water for irrigation purposes, together with every other expense of the district that it is probable will be incurred and become payable before the expiration of one year from the completion of said works, for which the funds of the district then in the treasury or thereafter to be received from a tax previously levied, are inadequate, including the interest on any bonds of the district due and payable prior to said date. Thereafter, when it is considered by the board of directors for the best interest of the district that bonds thereof shall be issued for the purpose of obtaining all of the money necessary to pay the costs and expenses specified in the estimate accompanying the plan of the irrigation works or when the holders of title, or evidence of title, including such aforesaid possessory rights, to a majority in area of the land contained in the district, shall sign and file with the secretary of the district a petition therefor, the said board of directors shall, by resolution adopted and entered in its minutes, order a special election to be held at the time designated by said board at which shall be submitted to the land owners the question of whether or not bonds of the district shall be issued in said amount. A notice of said election specifying the time and place at which the same will be held, the amount of the bonds proposed to be issued, the interest rate and purpose thereof, shall be published once a week for four weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located, and proof thereof must be filed with the secretary of the district prior to the date on which said election is held. The ballots cast at such election shall specify the amount and purpose of the proposed bond issue and the rate of interest proposed. If two-thirds of the votes cast thereat are in favor of the issuance of bonds, the board of directors shall cause bonds in the amount specified in the order for the election to be executed and delivered to the treasurer of the district. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Term, Denomination, Etc., of Bonds. Interest. Coupons. Form. Bonds Placed to Credit of District.

SEC. 14. Bonds of the district, when issued, shall be payable in gold coin of the United States in twenty series as follows, five per cent of the whole amount of said bonds at the expiration of eleven years and at the expiration of each succeeding year to and including the expiration of thirty years from the date of execution thereof; they shall be of the denomination of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars each; and they shall be signed by the president of the board of directors and attested by the secretary of the district. Each bond must be made payable at a given time for its entire amount and not for a percentage; shall bear interest at a rate not in excess of seven per cent per annum, payable semiannually on the dates therein named at the office of the treasurer upon the presentation and surrender of the proper coupons therefor, and the principal thereof shall be payable when due upon the presentation and surrender thereof to the treasurer by the holder of the same. Each issue shall be numbered consecutively and the bonds of each issue shall be numbered consecutively and bear date at the time of their issue. Coupons for each installment of interest shall be attached to the bonds and shall be numbered the same as the bonds, and attested by the facsimile signature of the secretary of the district.

The bonds shall be substantially in the following form:

"Issue ______ No. ______. For value received, ______ water district situated or principally situated in the county of ______, State of California, promises to pay the holder hereof at the office of the treasurer of said district, on the _______ day of _______, 19__, the sum of ______ dollars in gold coin of the United States with interest in like gold coin at the rate of ------ per centum per annum, payable at the office of said treasurer semiannually, on the ------ day of ------ and the ------ day of ------ in each year, on presentation and surrender of the interest coupons hereto attached. This bond is issued pursuant to an election held by said district on the ------ day of ------, 19--, authorizing its issuance, and by authority of an act entitled (specifying the title and date of approval of this act).

In witness whereof, the said district, by its board of directors, has caused this bond to be signed by the president of said board and attested by the secretary of said district, with the seal of the district attached, this ------ of ------, 19--.

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President of said board.

Attest:

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Secretary."

The interest coupons shall be substantially in the following form:

"No.-------.

The treasurer of ------ water district, State of California, will pay the holder hereof, on the ------ day of ------, 19--, at his office in ------ dollars, gold coin of the United States, out of the funds of -------- water district for interest on bond numbered -------- of said district.

Attest:

----------------------------
Secretary of ------- District."

The treasurer of the district shall, when he receives the same, place the said bonds to the credit of the district and he shall, in a book provided for that purpose, keep a record of said bonds and of the payment thereof and the interest thereon. When filed with said treasurer, as above provided, the bonds of the district and the interest thereon shall be and remain until paid a lien on the lands of the district, and a lien for the bonds of any issue shall be a preferred lien to that of any subsequent issue. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Test of Validity of Bonds

SEC. 15. As soon as said bonds shall have been delivered to said district treasurer, the board of directors, or any holder of title, or evidence of title, including such aforesaid possessory rights, to lands contained in the district, may, in order to determine that said bonds are a legal obligation of the district, institute a proceeding therefor in the superior court of the county in which the district was organized by filing with the clerk of said county a complaint setting forth that on a date therein named bonds of said district were delivered to the said treasurer, stating the amount of such bonds, and praying that such bonds be adjudged to be a valid legal obligation of such district. The summons in such proceeding shall be served by publishing a copy thereof once a week for four weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located. Within thirty days after the last publication thereof shall have been completed and proof thereof filed in the court, any person interested may appear and answer said complaint, in which case said answer shall set forth the facts relied upon to show the invalidity of said bonds. If no answer shall be filed within said time, the court must render judgment as prayed for in the complaint. If an answer be filed the court shall proceed as in other civil cases. Said proceeding is hereby declared to be a proceeding in rem and the judgment rendered therein shall be conclusive against all persons whomsoever and against the State of California. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Issue of Additional Bonds.

SEC. 16. For the purpose of completing the irrigation works and of acquiring the lands, property, property rights, water and water rights necessary or proper therefor and to supply the lands contained in the district with sufficient water for irrigation purposes, or for the purpose of making additions to said irrigation works, or for the purpose of paying for and retiring any issue of bonds previously made, the district may, when it is necessary or proper therefor, issue additional bonds in the same manner as is hereinbefore provided for the original issue of bonds.

### Sale of Bonds.

SEC. 17. The board of directors shall provide ways and means for the sale of said bonds or for the exchange thereof dollar for dollar for bonds of the State of California. Said board shall in no event, except as herein otherwise provided, sell or exchange, as above provided, any of said bonds for less than the par value thereof, plus the accrued interest thereon, nor shall any of said bonds be sold or exchanged nor shall said treasurer deliver any of the same unless the total proceeds thereof, either in gold coin of the United States or bonds of the State of California at their par value, shall be at least eighty-five per centum of the total amount of said bond issue, nor unless said bonds shall first have been approved as provided in section 18 of this act; provided, however, that the board of directors of a district shall have the power to order the bonds of the district to be sold at not less than ninety per cent of the par value thereof, when the board deems it for the best interest of the district to do so. When any of said bonds are sold by the board of directors, the district treasurer shall transfer the bonds purchased to the purchaser upon receiving the purchase price, and the moneys received therefrom shall be placed to the credit of the district and in a similar manner bonds of the State of California that may be received for bonds of the district shall be placed to the credit thereof to be sold as the board of directors may direct, in no case, however, for less than the par value thereof. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Water District Bonds Lawful Investment for Trust Funds, Etc. Approval of Bond Certification Commission.

SEC. 18. Bonds of any water district organized under the provisions of this act may be investigated and certified in the same manner, by the same officers and with the same force and effect as prescribed for the investigation and certification of bonds of irrigation districts, by the provisions of the act entitled "An act relating to bonds of irrigation districts, providing under what circumstances such bonds shall be legal investments for funds of banks, insurance companies and trust companies, trust funds, state school funds and any money or funds which may now or hereafter be invested in bonds of cities, cities and counties, counties, school districts or municipalities, and providing under what circumstances the use of bonds of irrigation districts as security for the performance of any act may be authorized," approved June 13, 1913, as amended, and all of the provisions of said act are hereby incorporated herein and made applicable to water districts organized under this act and to the bonds of such districts with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein at length, the term "irrigation district" as used in said act meaning and including, for the purposes of this reference, any "water district" organized under the provisions of this act. (Stats. 1929, p. 1473.)

### Destruction of Unused Bonds.

SEC. 19. Whenever there remains in the hands of the district treasurer any unsold bonds of the district which it is not necessary to sell for the purpose of raising funds for the district, the board of directors may call a special election to determine whether said bonds shall be destroyed or not, or may submit such proposition at a general election. The notice thereof shall specify, in addition to the requirements therefor as provided in section 23 of this act, the amount of the bonded indebtedness authorized, the amount of the bonds remaining unsold and the amount thereof proposed to be destroyed. When the vote cast at said election is canvassed by the board of election, if a two-thirds majority of the votes cast shall be found to be in favor of the destruction of said bonds, then the president of the board of directors, in the presence of a majority of the members thereof, must destroy the bonds so voted to be destroyed and the amount thereof shall be deducted from the total amount authorized to be issued, and no part thereof shall thereafter be reprinted or reissued. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Use of Excess Money to Redeem Bonds.

SEC. 20. Whenever the funds of the district are in excess of the amount necessary to complete the construction of the irrigation works or to acquire the necessary water, water rights, property and rights in property therefor and to supply all the lands contained in the district with sufficient water for irrigation purposes and in addition thereto to pay every obligation of the district that is due and payable or that will become due and payable or that it is probable will become due and payable before the expiration of two years from the date on which the last preceding tax of the district was levied, the board of directors may direct the treasurer of the district to pay with said excess (specifying the amount thereof) such an amount of the sold bonds of the district as said excess sum of money will redeem at the lowest value at which they may be obtained for liquidation, in no case for more than the par value thereof. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

**Treasurer to Receive Funds for District. Bond Fund. General Fund. Payments From Fund.**

SEC. 21. The treasurer of the district shall receive to the credit of the district and in trust for the uses and benefits thereof all the funds thereof, and all such funds or moneys belonging to the district, or to which the district is entitled, shall, when received, except as herein otherwise provided, be paid by the person so receiving them to the said treasurer. The said treasurer shall establish for the district two funds, to wit, a bond fund and a general fund, and shall apportion the moneys of the district to said funds, as follows: To the bond fund, that portion of the moneys received from the collection of taxes or from the sale of property for delinquent taxes which bears the same proportion to the total amount so received from the collection of taxes or from the sale of property for delinquent taxes as that portion of the estimate of the board of directors (on which said tax was based) which is required for the payment of bonds and of the interest on bonds bears to the whole amount of said estimate; to the general fund, the balance of all moneys or funds so received. In case lands of the district when sold for delinquent taxes, are struck off to the district as the purchaser, the tax collector of the district shall, in making his accounting with the treasurer of said district, furnish a statement of the lands so sold to the district and of the amount for which the same were sold, and said treasurer shall thereupon estimate that portion of said amount belonging to the bond fund and shall charge the general fund with said portion and shall pay the same from the general fund into the bond fund. The moneys placed in the bond fund shall be used for the payment of bonds and of the interest thereon, and, until the total bonded indebtedness of the district is discharged, shall not be used for any other purpose. The funds of the district shall not, except for the payment of bonds and the interest thereon, be paid out by the treasurer of the district, unless a warrant therefor shall have been drawn and executed by the board of directors. Such warrants are and shall be considered as contracts in writing for the payment of money, and the period prescribed for the commencement of an action based thereon, or connected therewith, is and shall be the term of four years from the date of their issuance. In any proceeding for a writ of mandate to compel the board of directors to issue a warrant, the court must determine the controversy in the manner provided for determining controversies in other civil actions, and shall cause a writ to issue for such sum as may be found to be due. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

## ELECTIONS

**Voters.**

SEC. 22. Except as herein otherwise provided, every holder of title or evidence of title (including the aforesaid possessory rights) to land contained in said district, and no other, shall be qualified and entitled to vote either in person or by proxy at any election held by said district. Each person entitled thereto shall have one vote for each dollar's worth of land, the title to which is held by him as above provided. The next preceding assessment book of said district shall, for the purpose of this section, be conclusive evidence of ownership and of the value of the property so owned.

**Conduct of Elections. Election Officers. Contest of Election. Proxies.**

SEC. 23. Except as herein otherwise provided, all elections held under the provisions of this act shall be called, held and conducted at the time, place and in the maner provided by the by-laws of the district; provided, however, that no such election shall be valid unless held within the district and unless notice thereof shall first have been given in the following manner: by publication thereof once a week for at least two weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located. The said notice of election shall state the time, place and purposes thereof. At least ten days before any election, the board of directors must appoint from among those persons qualified and entitled to vote at said eleection an inspector and two judges, who shall constitute a board of election, and three alternates who shall, in the order in which they are appointed, fill any vacancies on said board if any members thereof do not attend at the opening of the polls. Each member of such board of election, or his successor, must, before entering upon his duties as such, take an official oath as such member of the board of election, which may be administered by any officer authorized to administer oaths or by any landholder in the district. The inspector is chairman of the election board and shall appoint the necessary clerks, and if during the progress of the election any judge or clerk shall cease to act, he shall appoint his successor. The polls shall be kept open for the reception of votes from 10 o'clock a.m. until 5 o'clock p.m., when the same must be closed. The election board shall, before the opening of the polls, post in a conspicuous place thereat a list of all persons entitled to vote at said election with the number of votes they are entitled to cast. The ballots used at the election shall be provided by the board of directors and one of the clerks of the election shall deliver one of them to each person qualified to cast a vote or to his representative by proxy. The Australian ballot shall be used and the clerk of the election board at the time of delivering the same to the voter, or his representative by proxy, shall mark thereon in a place provided for that purpose the name of the person casting the ballot and also the name of the proxy, if any, and the number of votes which he is entitled to cast. The person casting the ballot shall stamp a cross with a rubber stamp, to be provided by the board of directors, in the square behind the name of each candidate or proposition he wishes to vote for. The election board shall retain and file with the returns of the election all proxies presented at said election. A list of the ballots cast shall be made by the board of election, containing the name of the voter and, if the ballot be cast by proxy or by the legal representative of the voter, the name of the person casting it; the number of votes cast; and how the person voted on the different matters presented at the election. At the close of the polls the board of election shall at once proceed to canvass the votes and declare the result, and shall, within ten days after the close of the polls, forward a certificate, showing the same and the number of votes cast for or against each candidate or proposition, together with all ballots used and all documents and papers used at such election, to the clerk of the board of supervisors of the county in which the district was organized, and a duplicate copy of said certificate to the secretary of the district. A copy of said certificate, certified by said clerk of the board of supervisors, shall be by him filed for record within ten days from the receipt thereof with the county recorder of each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located, and by him recorded in a book kept by him for the purpose of recording instruments and writings relating to said district. Any person interested may contest such election, within twenty days after the result thereof has been declared, by filing a complaint in the superior court of the county where such election was held, and if no contest shall be commenced within such said time, the declaration of the result by the board of election shall be final and conclusive. No proxy shall be valid and no proxy shall be accepted or vote allowed thereon at any election held under the provisions of this act unless the same be executed in writing by the person or corporation who, according to the next preceding assessment book of the district, is entitled to the votes for which the proxy is given. The said proxy shall be acknowledged before some person authorized to take certified acknowledgments of conveyances of real property and shall specify the election for which it is given and shall only be used at such election. Every proxy shall be revocable at the pleasure of the person executing it. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Rights May Be Exercised by Legal Representative.

SEC. 24. The rights, privileges and immunities created by this act in favor of any holder of title or evidence of title, including such aforesaid promissory rights, to lands contained in the district may for his benefit and on his behalf be exercised by, and are hereby extended to, his legal representative in all cases where said legal representative is an official of said corporation owning land within the district or is a guardian, executor, or administrator of an estate who is appointed as such under the laws of this state and who as such is entitled to the possession of lands included within said water district belonging to the estate which he represents and who has been by the court duly authorized to exercise the particular right, privilege or immunity which he seeks to exercise; provided, however, that he must, before he casts a ballot at any election of the district, present the board of election or some clerk thereof with a certified copy of his authority, which must be kept and filed with the returns of the election.

## CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS

### Use of Water for District Declared Public Use.

SEC. 25. The use of all water required for the irrigation of the lands of any district formed under the provisions of this act, and for domestic and other incidental and other beneficial uses, within such district, together with the rights of way for canals and ditches, sites for reservoirs and all other property required in fully carrying out the provisions of this act, is hereby declared to be a public use, subject to the regulation and control of the state in the manner prescribed by law.

### Power to Construct Works Across Streets, Etc. Right of Way Through State Lands.

SEC. 26. The board of directors shall have power to construct the irrigation works across any stream of water, watercourse, street, avenue, highway, railway, canal, ditch, or flume which the route of a canal or canals of said works may intersect or cross, in such manner as to afford security for life and property; but said board shall restore the same, when so crossed or intersected, to its former state as near as may be, or in a sufficient manner not to have impaired unnecessarily its usefulness; and every company whose railroad shall be intersected or crossed by said works shall unite with said board in forming said intersections and crossings and shall grant the privileges aforesaid; and if such railroad company and said board or the owners and controllers of said property, thing or franchise so to be crossed, can not agree upon the amount to be paid therefor, or the points or the manner of said crossings or intersections, the same shall be ascertained and determined in all respects as is herein provided in respect to the taking of land. A right of way is hereby given, dedicated, and set apart to locate, construct, and maintain said works over and through any of the lands which are now or may be the property of this state; and also there is given, dedicated, and set apart for the uses and purposes aforesaid, all waters and water rights belonging to this state within the district. The rights of way, ditches, flumes, pipe lines, dams, water rights, reservoirs and other property of like character belonging to any district organized under this act shall not be taxed for state and county or municipal purposes.

### Condemnation Proceedings.

SEC. 27. In case of condemnation proceedings, the board of directors shall proceed in the name of the district under the provisions of title seven, part three of the Code of Civil Procedure.

### Officers Not to Be Interested in Contracts.

SEC. 28. No officer of the district shall in any manner be interested directly or indirectly, in any contract awarded or to be awarded, or in the profits to be derived therefrom; and for any violation of this provision such officer shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and such conviction shall work a forfeiture of his office, and he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

## APPORTIONMENT OF WATER

### Apportionment of Waters. Penalty.

SEC. 29. It is hereby expressly provided that all waters distributed for irrigation purposes shall be apportioned ratably to each landowner upon the basis of the ratio which the last assessment of such owner for district purposes within said district bears to the whole acreage assessed upon the district. When the equitable rules and regulations for the distribution of water have been provided by the board of directors and published once a week for two weeks in some newspaper of general circulation published in each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located, any violation thereof shall be and is hereby declared to be a misdemeanor, and the person committing the same shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars.

### No Fees for Services of County Officers.

Sec. 30. No supervisor, recorder, auditor or clerk of any county shall receive any fee for any service required to be performed by him under the provisions of this act. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### In Case of Division of a County Excluding Lands of District.

Sec. 31. If at any time after the organization of any district hereunder, the boundaries of the county in which the same was organized shall be so changed or modified as to exclude therefrom all of the lands contained in said district, then in that event the records and documents of said district in the possession and care of the board of supervisors of said county, together with a certified copy of the proceedings had by the district under jurisdiction of said board of supervisors, shall be transferred and filed with the clerk of the board of supervisors of the county in which the greater portion of the lands contained in said district are located. All proceedings, petitions, orders or other documents which have been filed with the recorder of the county in which said district was organized, and which, or a certified copy thereof, have not been recorded in the county to which said district is transferred, shall be certified to by said county recorder and filed for record with the county recorder of the county to which said district has been transferred, and by him recorded in a book kept by him for the purpose of recording instruments and writings relating to said district. From and after the transfer in the manner above specified the board of supervisors of the county to which the district is transferred shall have and exercise all of the jurisdiction, power and authority over said district as was theretofore exercised by the board of supervisors of the county wherein such district was originally formed and thereafter any act or duty which is herein required to be done by the board of supervisors or any officer of the county in which said district was organized shall be performed by the corresponding board of supervisors or other official of the county to which said district has been transferred, and in general the said district shall thereafter conduct and manage its affairs through its proper officials and in conjunction with the proper officials of each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located as though said district was originally organized in the county to which it was transferred. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

## DISSOLUTION

### Action for Dissolution of District. Hearing.

SEC. 32. An action may be brought by the attorney general in the name of the people of this state, upon his own information, or that of a private party, for the dissolution of any district formed hereunder for a nonuser of its corporate powers. In such action the complaint and summons shall be personally served upon said district by delivery of a copy thereof to either the president of the board of directors or the secretary of the district. When service has been made upon the defendant and an appearance has been entered or a default of the defendant entered, the court, upon the application of any of the parties, shall thereupon enter an order fixing a day for hearing, which shall, not be less than twenty-five days from the date of the order and shall, also, enter an order directing notice by publication to be given by the clerk to all persons interested in said district either as the owners of land or interests in land in said district or as creditors of said district, or otherwise, requiring them to be and appear on the day fixed for the hearing and show cause, if any they have, why the district named in the complaint as defendant should not be dissolved. The notice shall be published in some newspaper of general circulation published in each county in which any of the lands contained in said district are located, for a period of not less than twenty days. On the day fixed for a hearing, or some later date to which the cause may be continued, the court may proceed with the hearing, due proof having been first made of the service of the notice by publication for the length of time required by the order. Any person interested in the district that is defendant, shall, upon showing his interest, be allowed to file an answer or objections to the dissolution of the defendant and shall from the filing of said answer or objections become a party defendant, and be entitled to all the rights of a defendant in any civil action. If upon the trial of any such action it be determined by the court: that the district is not in debt, or if in debt, that all claims are barred by the statute of limitations and that in addition thereto said district, or the board of directors thereof, are not proceeding to place the lands of the district under irrigation and are not exercising the powers of the corporation and have not been so doing for a period of one year prior thereto, the court shall then enter a decree dissolving the corporation, or make such further order as may be deemed necessary to protect the rights of all parties interested.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Constitutionality of Act.

SEC. 33. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this act is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act. The Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this act, and each of said parts thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional.

**Nothing Repealed.**

SEC. 34. This act does not change, modify, add to or repeal any other act or law of this state.

**County Assessment Roll May Be Adopted.**

SEC. 35. The board of directors of any district hereafter organized hereunder may at their option adopt the assessment roll of the county or counties in which the land of the district is contained in so far as said assessment roll affects the lands in the district; and file with the clerk of the board of supervisors a certified copy of such assessment roll, in lieu of the assessment book mentioned in section 8 of this act. (New section added Stats. 1917, p. 1409.)

## SALE OF WATER

**Sale of Water.**

SEC. 36. The board of directors of any district hereafter organized hereunder shall have the power to sell water to owners of land in the district and to fix rates for the sale of water, and such rates may vary in different months and in different localities of the district to correspond to the cost and value of the service, and to collect for all water sold and to use so much of the proceeds of the sale of water as may be necessary to defray the ordinary operating expenses of the district and any funds derived from the sale of water, in excess of the amount necessary for operating expenses, shall be applied by the treasurer of the district upon the payment of interest on bonds or to create a sinking fund. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

## EXCLUSION OF LAND

**Change of Boundaries.**

SEC. 37. The boundaries of any water district now organized or hereafter organized under the provisions of this act, may be changed, and tracts of land which were included within the boundaries of such district at or after its organization under the provisions of said act, may be excluded therefrom, in the manner herein prescribed; but neither such change of the boundaries of the district nor such exclusion of lands from the district shall impair or affect its organization, or its right in or to property, or any of its rights or privileges of whatever kind or nature; nor shall it affect, impair, or discharge any contract, obligation lien, or charge for or upon which said district was and may become liable or chargeable, had such change of its boundaries not been made, or had not such land been excluded from the district. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1474.)

**Petition for Exclusion.**

SEC. 38. The owner or owners in fee of one or more tracts of land which constitute a portion of a water district may jointly or severally file with the board of directors of the district a petition, praying that such tract or tracts may be excluded and taken from said district. The petition shall state the grounds and reasons upon which it is claimed that such lands should be excluded, and shall describe such lands; but the description of such lands need not be more particular or certain than is required when the lands are entered in the assessment book by the county assessor. Such petition must be acknowledged in the same manner and form as is required in the case of a conveyance of land, and the acknowledgment shall have the same force and effect as evidence as the acknowledgment of such a conveyance. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1474.)

### Publication of Notice of Filing Petition.

SEC. 39. The secretary of the board of directors shall cause a notice of the filing of such petition to be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in the county where the district was organized, and if any portion of such territory to be excluded lie within another county or counties, then said notice shall be so published in a newspaper published within each of said counties; or if no newspaper be published therein, then by posting such notice for the same time in at least three public places in said district, and in case of the posting of said notices, one of said notices must be so posted on the lands proposed to be excluded. The notice shall state the filing of such petition, the names of the petitioners, a description of the lands mentioned in said petition, and the prayer of said petition; and it shall notify all persons interested in, or who may be affected by such change of the boundaries of the district, to appear at the office of said board at a time named in said notice, and show cause, in writing, if any they have, why the change of the boundaries of said district, as proposed in said petition, should not be made. The time to be specified in the notice at which they will be required to show cause shall be the regular meeting of the board next after the expiration of the time for the publication of the notice. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Hearing on Petition for Exclusion.

SEC. 40. The board of directors, at the time and place mentioned in the notice, or at the time or times to which the hearing of said petition may be adjourned, shall proceed to hear the petition, and all evidence or proofs that may or shall be introduced by or on behalf of the petitioner or petitioners, and all objections to such petition that may or shall be presented in writing by any person showing cause as aforesaid, and all evidence and proofs that may be introduced in support of such objections. Such evidence shall be taken down in shorthand, and a record made thereof and filed with the board. The failure of any person interested in said district, other than the holders of bonds thereof outstanding at the time of the filing of said petition with said board, to show cause, in writing, why the tract or tracts of land mentioned in said petition should not be excluded from said district, shall be deemed and taken as an assent by him to the exclusion of such tract or tracts of land, or any part thereof, from said district; and the filing of such petition with said board, as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken as an assent by each and all such petitioners to the exclusion from such district of the lands mentioned in the petition, or any part thereof. The expenses of giving said notice and of the aforesaid proceeding shall be paid by the person or persons filing such petition. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1475.)

### Proofs in Support of Petition for Exclusion.

SEC. 41. If, upon the hearing of any such petition, no evidence or proofs in support thereof be introduced, or if the evidence fail to sustain said petition, or if the board deem it not for the best interest of the district that the lands, or some portion thereof, mentioned in the petition, should be excluded from the district, the board shall order that said petition be denied as to such lands; but if the said board deem it for the best interest of the district that the lands mentioned in the petition, or some portion thereof, be excluded from the district, and if no person interested in the district show cause in writing why the said lands or some portion thereof, should not be excluded from the district, or if, having shown cause, withdraws the same, or upon the hearing fails to establish such objections as he may have made, then it shall be the duty of the board to, and it shall forthwith, make an order that the lands mentioned and described in the petition, or some defined portion thereof, be excluded from said district; provided, that it shall be the duty of said board to so order, upon petition therefor as aforesaid, that all lands so petitioned to be excluded from said district shall be excluded therefrom, which can not be irrigated from, or which are not susceptible to, irrigation from a common source or by the same system of works with the other lands of said district, or from the source selected, chosen, or provided, or the system adopted for the irrigation of the lands in said district, or which are already irrigated, or entitled to be irrigated, from another source or by another system of irrigation works; provided, that no land irrigated by means of water, pumped from an underground source or sources shall be entitled to exclusion from any water district on account of being so irrigated, if it shall be shown that such land is or will be substantially benefited by subirrigation from the works of said district or by drainage works provided or required by law to be provided by said district, but no owner of land in any water district shall be required to pay any assessment, except for the payment of interest and principal due on bonds of the district, on any land in such district which, when the district was organized, was irrigated by means of water pumped from an underground source or sources and has continued each year to be irrigated exclusively by such means. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1475.)

### Holders of Bonds May Give Consent to Exclusion.

SEC. 42. If there be outstanding bonds of the district at the time of the filing of said petition, the holders of such outstanding bonds may give their assent, in writing, to the effect that they severally consent that the lands mentioned in the petition, or such portion thereof as may be excluded from said district by order of said board, or the decree of the superior court as hereinafter provided, may be excluded from the district; and if said lands, or any portion thereof, be thereafter excluded from the district, the lands so excluded shall be released from the lien of such outstanding bonds. The assent must be acknowledged by the several holders of such bonds in the same manner and form as is required in case of a conveyance of land, and the acknowledgment shall have the same force and effect as evidence as the acknowledgment of such conveyance. The assent shall be filed with the board, and must be recorded in the minutes of the board; and said minutes, or a copy thereof, certified by the secretary of said board, shall be admissible in evidence, with the same effect as the said assent, and such certified copy thereof may be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county wherein said lands are situated. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1475.)

### Organization of District Not Impaired by Exclusion.

SEC. 43. In the event the said board of directors shall exclude any lands from said district upon petition therefor, it shall be the duty of the board of directors to make an entry in the minutes of the board, describing the boundaries of the district, should the exclusion of said lands from said district change the boundaries of said district, and for that purpose the board may cause a survey to be made of such portions of the district as the board may deem necessary; and a certified copy of the entry in the minutes of the board excluding any land, certified by the president and secretary of the board, shall be filed for record in the recorder's office of each county within which are situated any of the lands of the district; but said district, notwithstanding such exclusion shall be and remain a water district as fully, to every intent and purpose, as it would be had no change been made in the boundaries of the district, or had the lands excluded therefrom never constituted a portion of the district. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1476.)

### Directors May Reestablish Division Boundaries.

SEC. 44. In case land is excluded from any district, the board of directors thereof, if they deem it desirable, but not less than thirty days before any election in such district, may reestablish the boundaries of the divisions and election precincts within such district. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1477.)

### Guardian and Executor, or Administrator of Estate May Sign Petition for Exclusion.

SEC. 45. A guardian and executor, or an administrator of an estate, who is appointed as such under the laws of this state, and who, as such guardian, executor, or administrator, is entitled to the possession of the lands belonging to the estate which he represents, may, on behalf of his ward, or the estate which he represents, upon being thereto properly authorized by the proper court, sign and acknowledge the petition in this act mentioned, and may show cause, as in this act provided, why the boundaries of the district should not be changed. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1477.)

### Excluded Lands Not Released From Payment of District Bonds.

SEC. 46. Nothing in this act provided shall, in any manner, operate to release any of the lands so excluded from the district from any obligation to pay, or any lien thereon, of any valid outstanding bonds or other indebtedness of said district at the time of the filing of said petition for the exclusion of said lands, but upon the contrary, said lands shall be held subject to said lien, and answerable and chargeable for and with the payment and discharge of all of said outstanding obligations at the time of filing of the petition for the exclusion of said land, as fully as though said petition for such exclusion were never filed and said order or decree of exclusion never made; and for the purpose of discharging such outstanding indebtedness, said lands so excluded shall be deemed and considered as part of said water district the same as though said petition for its exclusion had never been filed or said order or decree of exclusion never made; and all provisions which may have been resorted to to compel the payment by said lands of its quota or portion of said outstanding obligations, had said exclusion never been accomplished, may, notwithstanding said exclusion, be resorted to to compel and enforce the payment on the part of said lands of its quota and portion of said outstanding obligations of said irrigation district for which it is liable, as herein provided. But said land so excluded shall not be held answerable or chargeable for any obligation of any nature or kind whatever, incurred after the filing with the board of directors of said district of the petition for the exclusion of said lands from the said district; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to any outstanding bonds, the holders of which have assented to the exclusion of such lands from said district, as hereinbefore provided. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1477.)

## INCLUSION OF LAND.

### Change of Boundaries.

Sec. 47. The boundaries of any water district organized or existing under the provisions of this act may be changed to include within such district additional land, whether contiguous thereto or not, as hereinafter in this act provided; but no change in the boundaries of any district shall impair or affect its organization or its right in or to property, or any of its rights or privileges of whatsoever kind or nature, nor shall it affect, impair or discharge any contract, obligation, lien or charge for or upon which it was or might become liable or chargeable had such change of its boundaries not been made. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1478.)

### Lands That May Be Included.

Sec. 48. The holder or holders of title, or evidence of title, of any tract or tracts of land may file in the office of the board of directors of any water district a petition praying that said tract or tracts of land be included within said district. If any petitioner is the owner of an undivided interest in said land, or any of it, he shall be deemed to be the owner of such proportion of the area of the land in which he has an interest as his interest bears to the whole of such land. Each signature to such petition shall be acknowledged or proved as provided by law for signatures to an instrument to entitle it to be recorded. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1478.

### Publication of Petition by Secretary of Board of Directors.

Sec. 49. The secretary of the board of directors shall cause a notice of the filing of said petition to be given and published once a week for four consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in the county where the district was organized and if any portion of such territory to be included lie within other county or counties, then such notice shall be so published in a newspaper published within each of said counties; or if no newspaper be published therein, then by posting such notice for the same time in at least three public places in said district and in case of the posting of said notices, one of said notices must be so posted on the lands proposed to be included. The notice shall state the purpose of the petition and describe the boundaries of the tract or tracts of land proposed to be included and give the names of the petitioners, and it shall notify all persons interested in or that may be affected by the proposed inclusion of said land within the district to appear at the office of said board at a time named in said notice for the hearing of said petition and objections thereto and show cause in writing, if any they have, why said land or any of it should not be included as proposed in said petition. The time to be specified in the notice for the hearing of said petition and any objections thereto shall be the regular meeting of the board next after the expiration of the time for the publication of said notice. The petitioners shall advance to the secretary sufficient money to pay for the publication of said notice. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

### Hearing on Petition by Board of Directors.

Sec. 50. The board of directors, at the time and place mentioned in the said notice, or at such other time or times to which the hearing of said petition may be adjourned, shall proceed to hear the petition and all the objections thereto presented in writing by any person showing cause as aforesaid why said proposed change of the boundaries of the district should not be made. The failure by any person interested in said district, or in the matter of the proposed change of its boundaries, to show cause, in writing, as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken as an assent on his part to a change of the boundaries of the district as prayed for in said petition, or to such a change thereof as will include a part of said lands. And the filing of such petition with said board, as aforesaid, shall be deemed and taken as an assent on the part of each and all of such petitioners to such a change of said boundaries that they may include the whole or any portion of the lands described in said petition. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1479.)

### Conditions That May Be Required by Board of Directors.

Sec. 51. The board of directors to whom such petition is presented, may require, as a condition precedent to the granting of the same, that the petitioners shall severally pay to such district such respective sums, as nearly as the same can be estimated (the several amounts to be determined by the board), as said petitioners or their grantors would have been required to pay to such district as assessments, had such lands been included in such district at the time the same was originally formed. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1479.)

### Determinations of Board on Final Hearing.

Sec. 52. If the board of directors, after the hearing herein provided for, shall determine that said petition complies with the requirements hereof and that the inclusion within the district of the tract or tracts of land described in said petition, or some portion or portions thereof, will be for the best interests of the district and if no protest against the inclusion of such land is made, or if such protest be made and enough signatures be withdrawn therefrom so that said protest is no longer sufficient, the board shall order the boundaries of the district to be changed so that said tract or tracts of land, or such portion or portions thereof as the board shall deem it for the best interests of the district to include, shall be included within the district, but no land shall be so included unless the board, after the hearing aforesaid, shall determine that it can be irrigated by means of some of the works of the district or by means of practicable works connecting therewith and will be benefited by such irrigation; and if the board determines that only a portion or certain portions of the tract or tracts of land described in said petition should be included, said petition shall be dismissed unless the petitioners include a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title of said portion or of each of said portions, of said tract, representing also at least one-half the area of said portion or of each of said portions, or unless, within sixty days from the time such determination is made, there shall be filed with the board the consent in writing, of a majority of the holders of title or evidence of title of said portion, or of each of said portions of said tract or tracts of land, representing also at least one-half of the area of said portion or of each of said portions. The order shall describe the boundaries of the land so included within the district, and if said land adjoins any portion of the district the order shall also describe that portion of the boundary of the district which coincides with the boundary of the land so included, and for the purposes of said order the board may cause a survey to be made of such portions of said boundaries as may be deemed necessary. If more than one petition for the inclusion of lands has been presented, the board may in one order include within the district any number of separate tracts of land; but the owner or owners of separate tracts of land may join in a single petition the application for inclusion of separate tracts of land. Any public land of the United States of America may be included within any water district by such order of the board of directors without any petition therefor except as may be required by the laws of the United States, if such land can be irrigated by means of any of the works of the district or by any practicable works connecting therewith and will be benefited by such irrigation. When land is included within a water district and the board of directors finds that such inclusion without condition would work an injury to the land already within the district either by an impairment of water rights or by requiring a greater expense for furnishing water to the lands proposed to be included, the board may prescribe conditions upon such inclusion of land, either by providing for priority of right to water for the land already in the district or for the payment of an additional annual charge upon the land included or such other conditions as may to the board seem just. If any such conditions are prescribed by the board all the owners of the land subject to such conditions must, before any order for its inclusion is made, sign an agreement with the district describing the land so to be included and specifying such conditions. The signatures to said agreement must be acknowledged or proved as provided by law for the signatures of instruments to be recorded, and said agreement must be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county in which such lands are situated, and thereupon and upon the recording of a copy of the order including such lands as hereinafter provided, such lands shall become a part of the district subject to the conditions of said agreement. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1479.)

### Protests Against Inclusion.

SEC. 53. If a protest against the inclusion of such lands, signed by not less than three per cent of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands within the district and holding the title or evidence of title to not less than three per cent in value of the lands within the district according to the last equalized assessment roll of said district, shall have been presented to the board of directors and upon the hearing of said matter said protest shall not be withdrawn, or after the withdrawal therefrom of any signatures it shall still be signed by not less than three per cent of the holders of title or evidence of title to lands within the district and holding the title or evidence of title to not less than three per cent in value of the lands within the district according to the last equalized assessment roll of said district, or if the board of directors deem it not for the best interests of the district to include therein the lands described in said petition for inclusion, or any of them, the board shall adopt a resolution stating the facts and describing the boundary of the tract of land proposed to be included in the district; but before calling the election provided for in the next section, the board may require an undertaking, with sufficient sureties, from the petitioners for the inclusion of said land conditioned that the petitioners or the sureties will pay all the cost of holding such election in case such inclusion shall be denied. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1481.)

### Election on Inclusion.

SEC. 54. Upon the adoption of the resolution mentioned in the last preceding section, the board shall order that an election be held within said district, to determine whether the boundaries of the district shall be changed as mentioned in said resolution; and shall fix the time at which such election shall be held, and cause notice thereof to be given and published. Such notice shall be given and published, and such election shall be held and conducted, the returns thereof shall be made and canvassed, and the result of the election ascertained and declared, and all things pertaining thereto conducted in the manner prescribed by said act in case of a special election to determine whether bonds of a water district shall be issued. The ballots cast at said election shall contain the words "For change of boundary," or "Against change of boundary," or words equivalent thereto. The notice of election shall describe the proposed change of the boundaries in such manner and terms that it can readily be traced. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1481.)

### Order of Board After Election on Inclusion.

SEC. 55. If at such election a majority of all the votes cast at said election shall be against such change of the boundaries of the district, the board shall order that said petition be denied, and shall proceed no further in that matter. But if a majority of such votes be in favor of such change of the boundaries of the district, the board shall thereupon order that the boundaries be changed in accordance with said resolution adopted by the board. The said order shall describe the entire boundaries of said district, and for that purpose the board may cause a survey of such portions thereof to be made as the board may deem necessary. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1482.)

### Filing of Order of Board.

Sec. 56. Upon a change of the boundaries of a district being made, a copy of the order of the board of directors ordering such change, certified by the president and secretary of the board, shall be filed for record in the recorder's office of each county within which are situated any of the lands of the district, and thereupon the district shall be and remain a water district, as fully, and to every intent and purpose, as if the lands which are included in the district by the change of the boundaries, as aforesaid, had been included therein at the original organization of the district. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1482.)

### Certified Copy of Order of Board Admissible as Evidence.

Sec. 57. Upon the filing of the copies of the order, as in the last preceding section mentioned, the secretary shall record in the minutes of the board the petition aforesaid; and the said minutes, or a certified copy thereof, shall be admissible in evidence, with the same effect as the petition. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1482.)

### Guardian and Executor or Administrator May Sign Petition for Inclusion.

Sec. 58. A guardian, an executor or an administrator of an estate, who is appointed as such under the laws of this state, and who, as such guardian, executor, or administrator, is entitled to the possession of the lands belonging to the estate which he represents, may, on behalf of his ward, or the estate which he represents, upon being thereunto authorized by the proper court, sign and acknowledge the petition in this act mentioned, and may show cause, as in this act mentioned, why the boundaries of the district should not be changed. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1482.)

### Board of Directors May Reestablish Division Boundaries After Inclusion.

Sec. 59. In case land is included within any district, as aforesaid, the board of directors thereof may reestablish the boundaries of the divisions and election precincts within such district, so as to include such land therein and so as to make such divisions as nearly equal in size as may be practicable. (New section added Stats. 1929, p. 1482.)

### Title of Act.

Sec. 60. This act shall be known and cited as the "California water district act." (Stats. 1931, p. 784.)

# CHAPTER VII

# THE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT ACT

### Preliminary Statement.

While none of the procedure under the County Water District Act is subject to the approval of the state engineer or to the authority of any other state agency, it is included in this bulletin by reason of a rather wide inquiry as to its provision. Some thirty districts throughout the state, in the most of which the securing of a domestic water supply was a relatively large factor in influencing their organization, are operating under this act. As adopted in 1913, the act was closely patterned on the Water District Act of 1911, except that it applied to unincorporated territory (*Morrison* vs. *Smith Bros.,* 80 Cal. Dec. 571, 293 Pac. 53).

## THE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT ACT

*An act to provide for the incorporation and organization and management of county water districts, and to provide for the acquisition of water rights or construction thereby of waterworks and for the acquisition of all property necessary therefor, and also to provide for the distribution and sale of water by said districts.*

(Approved June 10, 1913, Stats. 1913, p. 1049; amended Stats. 1915, p. 26; 1917, p. 225; 1919, p. 816; 1923, p. 312; 1925, pp. 530, 987; 1927, p. 290; 1929, p. 1159; 1931, pp. 70, 81, 83, 2511.)

## ORGANIZATION

### Organization of District.

SECTION 1. A county water district may be organized and incorporated and managed as herein expressly provided and may exercise the powers herein expressly granted or necessarily implied.

*Coachella V. Co. Water Dist.* vs. *Stevens,* 206 Cal. 400, 266 Pac. 341, 274 Pac. 538.

### Who May Organize.

SEC. 2. The people of any county, or city and county, or portion of a county, or city and county, whether such portion includes unincorporated territory or not, in the State of California, having a population of not less than three hundred inhabitants, may organize a county water district under the provisions of this act by proceeding as herein provided. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 81.)

*People* vs. *Lake County Water Dist.,* 183 Cal. 137, 190 Pac. 630.

### Petition and Election.

SEC. 3. A petition, which may consist of any number of separate instruments, shall be presented at a regular meeting of the board of supervisors of the county in which the proposed water district is located, signed by the registered voters within the boundaries of the proposed water district, equal in number to at least ten per centum of the number of votes cast in said proposed county water district for the office of governor of this state at the last general election prior to the presenting of the petition; provided, that where one or more municipal corporations or part thereof is included in such proposed water district, such petition must be signed by at least ten per centum of the qualified electors of each such municipal corporations or part thereof and of the unincorporated territory included in such proposed water district so voting at such election. Such petition shall set forth and describe the proposed boundaries of such water district, and shall pray that the same be incorporated under the provisions of this act, and the text of such petition shall be published for at least two weeks before the time at which the same is to be presented in at least one, but not to exceed three newspapers printed and published in such county, together with a notice stating the time of the meeting at which same will be presented. When contained upon more than one instrument, one copy only of such petition need be published. No more than five of the names attached to said petition need appear in such publication of said petition and notice, but the number of signers shall be stated.

With such publication there shall also be published a notice of the time of the meeting of the board when such petition will be considered and that all persons interested therein may then appear and be heard. At such time the board of supervisors shall hear the petition and those appearing thereon together with such written protests as shall have been filed with the clerk of the board prior to such hearing by or on behalf of owners of taxable property situated within the boundaries of the proposed district and may adjourn such hearing from time to time, not exceeding four weeks in all. No defect in the contents of the petition or in the title to or form of the notice or signatures, or lack of signatures, thereto shall vitiate any proceedings thereon, provided such petition or petitions have a sufficient number of qualified signatures attached thereto. On the final hearing said board shall make such changes in the proposed boundaries as may be deemed advisable and shall define and establish such boundaries. But said board shall not modify said boundaries so as to exclude from such proposed district any territory which would be benefited by the formation of such district; nor shall any lands which will not, in the judgment of said board, be benefited by such district be included within such proposed district. Any person whose lands are benefited by such district may upon his application, in the discretion of said board, have such lands included within said proposed district.

Upon such hearing of said petition, the board of supervisors shall determine whether or not said petition complies with the requirements of the provisions of this act, and for that purpose must hear all competent and relevant testimony offered in support of or in opposition thereto. Such determination shall be entered upon the minutes of said board of supervisors. A finding of the board of supervisors in favor of the genuineness and sufficiency of the petition and notices shall be final and conclusive against all persons except the State of California upon suit commenced by the attorney general. Any such suit must be commenced within one year after the order of the board of supervisors declaring such district organized as herein provided, and not otherwise. Upon the final determination of the boundaries of the district the board of supervisors shall give notice of an election to be held in said proposed water district for the purpose of determining whether or not the same shall be incorporated, the date of which election shall be not more than sixty days from the date of the final hearing of such petition. Such notice shall describe the boundaries so established and shall state the proposed name of the proposed incorporation (which name shall contain the words "---------- county water district"), and this notice shall be published at least two weeks prior to such election in at least one, but not to exceed three, newspapers printed and published in said county. At such election the proposition to be submitted shall be: "Shall the proposition to organize ------------ county water district under (naming the chapter containing this act) of the acts of the fortieth session of the California legislature and amendments thereto be adopted?" And the election thereupon shall be conducted, the vote canvassed and the result declared in the same manner as provided by law in respect to general elections, so far as they may be applicable, except as in this act otherwise provided. No person shall be entitled to vote at any election under the provisions of this act unless such person possesses all the qualifications required of electors under the general election laws of the state. Within four days after such election the vote shall be canvassed by the board of supervisors. If a majority of the votes cast at such election in each municipal corporation or part thereof and in the unincorporated territory included in such proposed water district shall be in favor of organizing such county water district, said board shall by an order entered on its minutes declare the territory enclosed within the proposed boundaries duly organized as a county water district under the name theretofore designated, and the county clerk shall immediately cause to be filed with the secretary of state and shall cause to be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county in which such district is situated, each, a certificate stating that such a proposition was adopted. Upon the receipt of such last mentioned certificate the secretary of state shall, within ten days, issue his certificate reciting that the county water district (naming it) has been duly incorporated according to the laws of the State of California. A copy of such certificate shall be transmitted to and filed with the county clerk of the county in which such county water district is situated. From and after the date of such certificate, the district named therein shall be deemed incorporated as a county water district, with all the rights, privileges and powers set forth in this act and necessarily incident thereto. In case less than a majority of the votes cast are in favor of said proposition the organization fails but without prejudice to renewing proceedings at any time in the future. (Amended, Stats. 1915, p. 26.)

*People* vs. *Lake Co. Water Dist.*, 183 Cal. 137, 190 Pac. 630;
*Sleeper* vs. *Board of Sup'rs*, 60 Cal. App. 744, 214 Pac. 292;
*San Gabriel Co. Water Dist.* vs. *Richardson*, 68 Cal. App. 297, 228 Pac. 1055.

## OFFICERS

### Election of Directors.

SEC. 4. Within ninety days after the date of filing with the county clerk of the copy of the certificate of the secretary of state, provided for in section 3 of this act, the board of supervisors of the county in which the county water district is located shall make and cause to be entered upon its minutes at a regular meeting thereof an order calling an election in such county water district for the election of a board of directors for the county water district consisting of five members, each of whom shall be a resident and qualified elector of the county water district.

The order of the board of supervisors shall fix the date of the election which shall not be more than sixty days after the date of the order calling the election. The order shall also create one or more voting precincts within the district and establish a polling place in each precinct and appoint a board of election, consisting of one inspector, one judge and two clerks, to hold, conduct and make returns of the election.

The county clerk shall give notice of the election by publishing notice thereof for at least two weeks in one but not to exceed three newspapers published in the county. The notice of election so published shall state the purpose for which the election is to be held, describe the voting precincts, state the location of the polling place for each precinct, the name and position of the persons appointed election officers and the date on which the election will be held.

The election shall be conducted in accordance with the general election laws of the state so far as the same may be applicable and the returns canvassed by the board of supervisors of the county at its regular meeting next succeeding the date of the election.

In all cases where the boundaries of the county water district include both unincorporated territory and any incorporated municipality or municipalities, the board of directors of the district, in addition to the five directors elected, shall further consist of one additional director, for each incorporated municipality within the boundaries of the county water district, and one additional director to be appointed by the board of supervisors of the county in which such district is located. Each such additional director for an incorporated municipality shall be appointed by the mayor or president of the board of trustees of the municipality for which such additional director is allowed, and the additional director for the county shall be appointed by the board of supervisors of the county. Any director so appointed need not be an elector or resident of the county water district. All directors elected or appointed shall hold office until the election and qualification or appointment and qualification of their successor. The term of office of directors elected under the provisions of this act shall be four years from and after the date of their election; provided, that the directors first elected after the incorporation of the county water district shall hold office only until the election and qualification of their successors as hereinafter provided. The term of office of directors appointed shall be six years from and after the date of their appointment. All vacancies occurring in the office of directors appointed shall be filled by appointment by the same authority as in the first instance.

All vacancies occurring in the office of directors who are elected shall be filled by appointment by the remaining directors elected and the person so appointed shall have all of the qualifications necessary to be elected a director, and shall hold office during the unexpired term.

In all cases where, under the provisions of this section, directors are to be appointed the first appointed directors shall be appointed by the mayor or the president of the board of trustees of incorporated municipalities and the board of supervisors not later than the date set for the election provided for in this section.

The election of directors of such county water district shall be in every fourth year after its organization, on the fourth Tuesday in March, and shall be known as the general water district election. A second election shall be held, when necessary, as hereinafter provided, on the third Tuesday after such general election and shall be known as the second water district election. All other elections which may be held by authority of this act, or of the general laws, shall be known as special water district election. (Stats. 1925, p. 530.)

### Nomination and Election of Officers.

SEC. 5. (1) The mode of nomination and election of all elective officers of such water district to be voted for at any water district election and the mode of appointment of a director or directors by said mayor or mayors or by said board of supervisors shall be as follows and not otherwise.

(2) The name of a candidate shall be printed upon the ballot when a petition of nomination shall have been filed in his behalf in the manner and form and under the conditions hereinafter set forth.

(3) The petition of nomination shall consist of not less than twenty-five individual certificates, which shall read substantially as follows:

#### PETITION OF NOMINATION.

*Individual Certificate.*

State of California, }
County of---------} ss

Precinct No.------

I, the undersigned, certify that I do hereby join in a petition for the nomination of ------, whose residence is at No. ------, ------ street, for the office of ------ of the ------ county water district to be voted for at the water district election to be held in the ------ county water district on the ------ day of ------, 19---; and I further certify that I am a qualified elector residing within said district, and am not at this time a signer of any other petition nominating any other candidate for the above named office, or, in case there are several places to be filled in the above named office, that I have not signed more petitions than there are places to be filled in the above named office; that my residence is at No. ------, ------ street, ------, and that my occupation is ------.

Signed-----------------------------

State of California, }
County of---------} ss

---------------being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the person who signed the foregoing certificate and that the statements therein are true and correct.

(Signed)---------------------------

Subscribed and sworn to before me this__________________day of ____________, 19___.

___________________________________
Notary public or verification deputy.

The petition for nomination of which this certificate forms a part shall, if found insufficient, be returned to ____________ at No.______ ______________ street, _______________, California.

(4) It shall be the duty of the county clerk to furnish upon application a reasonable number of forms of individual certificates of the above character.

(5) Each certificate must be a separate paper. All certificates must be of uniform size as determined by the county clerk. Each certificate must contain the name of one signer thereto and no more. Each certificate shall contain the name of one candidate and no more. Each signer must be a qualified elector residing within said district, must not at the time of signing a certificate have his name signed to any other certificate for any other candidate for the same office, nor, in case there are several places to be filled in the same office, signed to more certificates for candidates for that office than there are places to be filled in such office. In case an elector has signed two or more conflicting certificates, all such certificates shall be rejected. Each signer must verify his certificate and make oath that the same is true, before a notary public or a certification deputy, as provided for in this section. Each certificate shall further contain the name and address of the person to whom the petition is to be returned in case said petition is found insufficient.

(6) Verification deputies, under this section, must be qualified electors of such county water district, and shall be appointed by the county clerk upon application in writing, signed by not less than five qualified electors of such county water district. The application shall set forth that the signers thereto desire to procure the necessary signatures of electors for the nomination of candidates for office in said county water district at an election therein specified, and that the applicants desire the person or persons whose names and addresses are given appointed as verification deputies, who shall upon appointment be authorized and empowered to take the oath of verification of the signers of petitions of nomination. Such verification deputies need not use a seal, and shall not have power to take oaths for any other purposes whatsoever, and their appointments shall continue only until all petitions of nomination, under this section, shall have been filed by the county clerk.

(7) A petition of nomination, consisting of not less than twenty-five individual certificates for any one candidate, may be presented to the county clerk not earlier than forty-five days nor later than thirty days before the election. The county clerk shall endorse thereon the date upon which the petition was presented to him.

(8) When a petition of nomination is presented for filing to the county clerk, he shall forthwith examine the same, and ascertain whether or not it conforms to the provisions of this section. If found not to conform thereto, he shall then and there in writing designate on said petition the defect or omission or reason why such petition can not be filed, and shall return the petition to the person named as the person

to whom the same may be returned in accordance with this section. The petition may then be amended and again presented to the clerk as in the first instance. The clerk shall forthwith proceed to examine the petition as hereinbefore provided. If necessary, the board of supervisors shall provide extra help to enable the clerk to perform satisfactorily and promptly the duties imposed by this section.

(9) Any signer to a petition of nomination and certificate may withdraw his name from the same by filing with the county clerk a verified revocation of his signature before the filing of a petition by the clerk, and not otherwise. He shall then be at liberty to sign a petition for another candidate for the same office.

(10) Any person whose name has been presented under this section as a candidate may, not later than twenty-five days before the day of election, cause his name to be withdrawn from nomination by filing with the county clerk a request therefor in writing, and no name so withdrawn shall be printed upon the ballot. If, upon such withdrawal, the number of candidates remaining does not exceed the number to be elected, then other nominations may be made by filing petitions therefor not later than twenty-five days prior to such election.

(11) If either the original or amended petition of nomination be found sufficiently signed as hereinbefore provided, the clerk shall file the same twenty-five days before the date of the election. When a petition of nomination shall have been filed by the clerk it shall not be withdrawn or added to and no signature shall be revoked thereafter.

(12) The county clerk shall preserve in his office for a period of two years, all petitions of nomination and all certificates belonging thereto, filed under this section.

(13) Immediately after such petitions are filed, the county clerk shall enter the names of the candidates in a list, with the offices to be filled, and shall not later than twenty days before the election certify such list as being the list of candidates nominated as required by the provisions of this act, and the board of supervisors shall cause said certified list of names and the offices to be filled, to be published in the proclamation calling the election at least ten successive days before the election in at least one but not more than three newspapers of general circulation published in the county in which such municipal water district is located. Such proclamation shall conform in all respects to the general state law governing the conduct of general elections now or hereafter in force, applicable thereto, except as otherwise herein provided.

(14) The county clerk shall cause the ballots to be printed and bound and numbered as provided by said general state law, except as otherwise required in this act. The ballots shall contain the list of names and the respective offices as published in the proclamation and shall be in substantially the following form:

GENERAL (OR SPECIAL) DISTRICT ELECTION,

-------- COUNTY WATER DISTRICT,

(Inserting date thereof).

*Instructions to Voters:* To vote, stamp or write a cross (×) opposite the name of the candidate for whom you desire to vote. All marks otherwise made are forbidden. All distinguishing marks are forbidden and make the ballot void. If you wrongly mark, tear or deface this ballot, return it to the inspector of election, and obtain another.

(15) All ballots printed shall be precisely on the same size, quality, tint of paper, kind of type, and color of ink, so that without the number it would be impossible to distinguish one ballot from another; and the names of all candidates printed upon the ballot shall be in type of the same size and style. A column may be provided on the right-hand side for questions to be voted upon at municipal water district elections, as provided for under this act. The names of the candidates for each office shall be arranged in alphabetical order, and nothing on the ballot shall be indicative of the source of the candidacy or of the support of any candidate.

(16) The name of no candidate who has been duly and regularly nominated, and who has not withdrawn his name as herein provided shall be omitted from the ballot.

(17) The offices to be filled shall be arranged in the following order: "For director vote for (giving number)."

(18) Half-inch square shall be provided at the right of the name of each candidate wherein to mark the cross.

(19) Half-inch spaces shall be left below the printed names of candidates for each office equal in number to the number to be voted for, wherein the voter may write the name of any person or persons for whom he may wish to vote.

(20) The county clerk shall cause to be printed sample ballots, identical with the ballot to be used at the election, and shall furnish copies of the same on application to registered voters at his office at least five days before the date fixed for such election, and shall mail one such ballot to each voter entitled to vote at such election, so that all of said sample ballots shall have been mailed at least three whole days before said election.

(21) In case there is but one person to be elected to an office, the candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast for the candidates for that office shall be declared elected; in case there are two or more persons to be elected to an office, as that of director, then those candidates equal in number to the number to be elected, who receive the highest number of votes for such office shall be declared elected; provided, however, that no person shall be declared elected to any office at such first election unless the number of votes received by him shall be greater than one-half the number of ballots cast at such election.

(22) If at any election held as above provided there be any office to which the required number of persons was not elected, then as to such office the said first election shall be considered to have been a primary election for the nomination of candidates, and a second election shall be held to fill said office. The candidates not elected at such first election, equal in number to twice the number to be elected to any given office, or less if so there be, who receive the highest number of votes for the respective offices at such first election, shall be the only candidates at such second election; provided, that if there be any person who, under the provisions of this subdivision, would have been entitled to become a candidate for any office, except for the fact that some other candidate received an equal number of votes therefor, then all such persons receiving such equal number of votes shall likewise become

candidates for such office. The candidates equal in number to the persons to be elected who shall receive the highest number of votes at such second election shall be declared elected to such office.

(23) The said second election, if necessary to be held, shall be held three weeks after the first election.

(24) All the provisions and conditions above set forth as to the conduct of an election, so far as they may be applicable, shall govern the second election, except that notice of election need be published twice only; and provided, also, that the same precincts and polling places shall, if possible, be used.

(25) If a person elected fails to qualify, the office shall be filled as if there were a vacancy in such office, as hereinafter provided.

(26) The mode of appointment of director or directors by a mayor, or by a board of supervisors shall be by certificate of appointment signed by said mayor or mayors, or issued by said board of supervisors, and transmitted to the board of directors of said county water district.

(27) No informality in conducting county water district elections shall invalidate the same, if they have been conducted of directors to fill a vacancy, or appointment by a mayor or by this act.

### General Laws to Govern.

SEC. 6. The provisions of the law relating to the qualifications of electors, the manner of voting, the duties of election officers, the canvassing of returns, and all other particulars in respect to the management of general elections, so far as they may be applicable, shall govern all water district elections, except as in this act otherwise provided; provided, that the board of supervisors shall canvass the returns of the first election and that thereafter, except as herein provided, the board of directors shall meet as a canvassing board and duly canvass the returns within four days after any water district election, including any water district bond election.

### Officers Subject to Recall.

SEC. 7. Every incumbent of an elective office, whether elected by popular vote for a full term, or elected by the board of directors to fill a vacancy, or appointed by a mayor or by said board of supervisors for a full term, is subject to recall by the voters of any county water district organized under the provisions of this act, in accordance with the recall provisions of the general laws of the state applicable to officers of counties.

### Organization of Board.

SEC. 8. The board of directors shall be the governing body of such county water district. It shall hold its first meeting on the sixth Monday after the first general election for the election of directors as herein provided; it shall choose one of its members president, and shall thereupon provide for the time and place of holding its meetings and the manner in which its special meetings may be called. All legislative sessions of the board of directors whether regular or special shall be open to the public. A majority of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The board of directors shall establish rules for its proceedings.

### Ordinances.

SEC. 9. The board of directors shall act only by ordinance or resolution. The ayes and noes shall be taken upon the passage of all ordinances or resolutions and entered upon the journal of the proceedings of the board of directors. No ordinance or resolution shall be passed or become effective without the affirmative votes of at least a majority of the members of the board. The enacting clause of all ordinances passed by the board shall be in these words: "Be it ordained by the board of directors of -------- county water district as follows:" All resolutions and ordinances shall be signed by the president of the board of directors and attested by the secretary. Each director shall receive the sum of ten dollars for each meeting of the board of directors attended by him, not exceeding three meetings in any calendar month, and such additional compensation not exceeding ten dollars per day as shall be fixed and allowed by the board for his services while otherwise employed by authority of the board in the business of the district. He shall also be allowed, with the approval of the board of directors, all traveling and other expenses reasonably incurred by him in such employment. Any vacancy in the board of directors, whether the vacant office is elective or appointive, shall be filled by the remaining directors. (Stats. 1927, p. 290.)

### General Manager, Secretary and Auditor.

SEC. 10. The board of directors shall at its first meeting, or as soon thereafter as practicable, appoint, by a majority vote, a general manager, a secretary, and an auditor. No director shall be eligible to the office of general manager, secretary or auditor. The general manager, secretary, and auditor shall receive such compensation as the board of directors shall determine, and each shall serve at the pleasure of the board.

### Informality Not to Invalidate.

SEC. 11. No informality in any proceeding or informality in the conduct of any election, not substantially affecting adversely the legal rights of any citizen, shall be held to invalidate the incorporation of any county water district, and any proceeding wherein the validity of such incorporation is denied shall be commenced within three months from the date of the certificate of incorporation, otherwise said incorporation and the legal existence of said county water district, and all proceedings in respect thereto, shall be held to be valid and in every respect legal and incontestable.

## POWERS AND DUTIES

### Powers of District.

SEC. 12. Any county water district incorporated as herein provided shall have power:

1. To have perpetual succession;

2. To sue and be sued, except as otherwise provided herein or by law, in all actions and proceedings in all courts and tribunals of competent jurisdiction;

3. To adopt a seal and alter it at pleasure;

4. To take by grant, purchase, gift, devise, or lease; to hold, use, enjoy, and to lease or dispose of real and personal property of every kind, within or without the district, necessary to the full exercise of its powers;

5. To construct, purchase, lease or otherwise acquire waterworks and other works and machinery, canals, conduits and reservoirs, and to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire water rights, storage sites, water sheds, lands, rights and privileges, useful or necessary to convey, supply, store or otherwise make use of water for irrigation, power or other useful purposes, and to operate and maintain such water rights, waterworks, canals, conduits, reservoirs, storage sites, water sheds, works, machinery, lands, rights and privileges for the uses aforesaid for the benefit of the district;

6. To store water for the benefit of the district; to conserve water for future use; to appropriate, acquire and conserve water and water rights for any useful purpose; to commence, maintain, intervene in and compromise, in the name of the district, and to assume the costs of any action or proceeding involving or affecting the ownership or use of waters or water rights within the district used or useful for any purpose of the district or a benefit to any land situated therein; to commence, maintain, intervene in, defend and compromise actions and proceedings to prevent interference with or diminution of the natural flow of any stream or natural subterranean supply of waters used or useful for any purpose of the district or a common benefit to the lands within the district or its inhabitants; and to commence, maintain and defend actions and proceedings to prevent any such interference with the aforesaid waters as may endanger the inhabitants or lands of the district;

7. To lease of and from any person, firm or public or private corporation, with the privilege of purchase, or otherwise, existing water rights, waterworks, canals, or reservoir systems; and to carry on and maintain the same; also to sell water, or the use thereof, for irrigation, power, or other useful purposes, and whenever there is a surplus, sell, or otherwise, dispose of the same, to municipalities, or towns, or to consumers, located within or without the boundaries of the district;

8. To have and exercise the right of eminent domain in the manner provided by law for the condemnation of private property for public use, to take any property necessary to supply the district or any portion thereof with water, whether such property be already devoted to the same use or otherwise, and may condemn any existing water rights, canals, reservoirs, storage sites, water sheds, waterworks or systems, or any portion thereof owned by any person, firm or corporation; provided that property and water rights of municipal corporations shall not be subject to the provisions of this section. In proceedings relative to the exercise of such right, the district shall have the same rights, powers and privileges as a municipal corporation;

9. To cooperate and contract with the United States, under the federal reclamation act of June 17, 1902, and all acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, or any other act of congress heretofore or hereafter enacted, authorizing or permitting such cooperation or contract for purposes of construction of works, whether for irrigation, drainage, flood control or for the development of electric or other

power, or for the acquisition, purchase, extension, operation or maintenance of such works, or for a water supply, or for the assumption as principal or guarantor of indebtedness to the United States, and to carry out and perform the terms of any contract so made;

10. To borrow money and incur indebtedness and to issue bonds or other evidences of such indebtedness; also to refund or retire any indebtedness or lien that may exist against the district or property thereof;

11. To cause taxes to be levied for the purpose of paying any obligation of the district and to accomplish the purposes of this act in the manner herein provided;

12. To make contracts, to employ labor and to do all acts necessary for the full exercise of the foregoing powers. (Amended Stats. 1919, p. 816; Stats. 1923, p. 312.)

*Coachella V. Co. Water Dist.* vs. *Stevens,* 206 Cal. 400, 266 Pac. 341, 274 Pac. 538.

### Annexation With or Inclusion in Municipal Utility District.

SEC. 12a. Any district organized under the provisions of this act may be annexed to or included within the territory of any municipal utility district organized under the provisions of that certain act entitled "An act to provide for the organization, incorporation, and government of municipal utility districts, authorizing such districts to incur bonded indebtedness for the acquisition and construction of works and property, and to levy and collect taxes to pay the principal and interest thereon," approved May 23, 1921, as amended, and such annexation or inclusion shall not destroy the identity or legal existence of any district organized under this act, notwithstanding the identity of purpose or substantial identity of purpose of the municipal utility district to which or into which any district organized under this act is included or annexed.

Any such annexation may be effected pursuant to the provisions of any law now or hereafter enacted providing for the annexation of county water districts to municipal utility districts, and all such laws are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof. The legislative body of any county water district may agree in writing with the board of directors of said municipal utility district upon the terms and conditions of such annexation, which agreement (among other things) may provide for the payment of special taxes within the county water district to be annexed in addition to the taxes elsewhere in said municipal utility district act provided for, the fixing of rates, rentals and charges differing from those fixed or existing elsewhere within said municipal utility district, the incurring or assumption of indebtedness or the making of a payment or payments or the transfer of property, real and personal, and other assets to said municipal utility district in consideration of the annexation of such county water district to said municipal utility district.

If a proposition for the annexation of such county water district to said municipal utility district, in accordance with and subject to all of the terms and conditions of such agreement of annexation, is approved by a majority of the voters of such county water district at an election called and held as required by the terms of the act under which said municipal utility district is organized, said proposition and all of the terms and conditions of said agreement of annexation shall be deemed to have been carried and approved by the electors, and the legislative body of such county water district shall be empowered to comply with the terms and conditions of said agreement of annexation and to execute and deliver any and all contracts, agreements, deeds and other instruments as may be required to carry out the terms and conditions of said annexation agreement. If such agreement of annexation provides for the transfer of any property or assets of the county water district the same shall be automatically transferred to and vest in said municipal utility district by operation of law upon the annexation of said county water district.

If such annexation or inclusion shall be made pursuant to any agreement or contract entered into in accordance with the provisions of this act whereby the properties or assets of any district organized under this act are transferred such district shall, nevertheless, in the case of such annexation or inclusion, continue its legal existence, with all powers of a county water district under the terms of this act, until otherwise dissolved pursuant to any law now or hereafter enacted for that purpose.[1] (Stats. 1931, p. 70.)

### Powers Exercised by Board.

SEC. 13. The powers herein enumerated shall, except as herein otherwise provided, be exercised by the board of directors above provided for and elected and appointed as described herein.

### Duties of Officers of Board.

SEC. 14. The president shall sign all contracts on behalf of the district and perform such other duties as may be imposed by the board of directors. The secretary shall countersign all contracts on behalf of the district and perform such other duties as may be imposed by the board of directors. The general manager shall have full charge and control of the maintenance, operation and construction of the waterworks or waterworks system of said water district, with full power and authority to employ and discharge all employees and assistants at pleasure, prescribe their duties, and shall, subject to the approval of the board of directors, fix their compensation. The general manager shall perform such other duties as may be imposed upon him by the board of directors. The general manager shall report to the board of directors in accordance with such rules and regulations as they may adopt. The auditor shall be charged with the duty of installing and maintaining a system of auditing and accounting that shall completely and at all times show the financial condition of the district. He shall draw warrants to pay demands made against the district when such demands have been first approved by at least three members of the board of directors and by the general manager. The board of directors shall also designate a depositary or depositaries to have the custody of the funds of the district, all of which depositaries shall give security sufficient to secure the district against possible loss, and who shall pay the warrants drawn by the auditor for demands against the district under such rules as the directors may prescribe. The general manager, secretary and auditor, and all other employees or assistants of said district who may be required so to do by the board of directors, shall give bonds to the district conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties as the board of directors from time to time may provide. (Stats. 1929, p. 1159.)

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[1] The act adopting this section also contained the following:

"SEC. 2. This act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety within the meaning of section 1 of article four of the constitution of the State of California, and shall go into immediate effect. The following is a statement of the facts constituting such urgency and necessity: Various county water districts and their inhabitants are now faced with impending water shortages, and the peace, health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this state residing therein are dependent upon the immediate acquisition of an adequate and pure water supply for their public and domestic requirements, which can only be secured from certain existing municipal utility districts. Said municipal utility districts are at present without authority to enter into appropriate arrangements for supplying said citizens and districts with water, but said amendment will enable municipal utility districts to provide for their public and domestic requirements and avert impending water shortages.

### Bonded Indebtedness. Election. Notice. Publication. Canvass of Returns.

SEC. 15.[1] Whenever the board of directors deem it necessary for the district to incur a bonded indebtedness, it shall by resolution so declare, and state in said resolution the purpose for which the proposed debt is to be incurred and the amount thereof, and shall by said resolution fix a time and place for a hearing by the board on the question as to whether the whole district or only a portion thereof will be benefited by the accomplishment of said purpose, and if only a portion thereof will be so benefited, what portion will be so benefited. Notice of such hearing shall thereupon be given by the secretary of said board of directors by publication of a copy of said resolution in some newspaper printed and published in said district for at least two weeks and, if there be no newspaper printed and published in said district, by posting a copy thereof in three public places within said district at least two weeks before the time fixed for said hearing. Said copy of said resolution so published or posted shall be accompanied by notice subscribed by said secretary, with the seal of the district attached, to the effect that the hearing referred to in said resolution will be had at the time and place specified in said resolution and at said time any person interested, including all persons owning property in said district, will be heard upon the question stated in said resolution. At the time and place fixed in said resolution for said hearing, or at such time and place to which said hearing may be adjourned, said board of directors shall proceed with said hearing and any person interested, including any and all persons owning property within said district, may appear and present any and all such matters material to said question as he may desire. Upon the conclusion of said hearing, said board of directors shall by resolution determine whether the whole of said district will be benefited by the accomplishment of the purpose stated, and if it determines that the whole of said district will not be so benefited by the accomplishment of said purpose, it shall state what portion of the district will be so benefited, describing the same in a manner sufficient for identification and that portion of the county water district so described shall thereupon constitute and be known as Improvement District No. ---------- of ---------- county water district, and the proceedings thereafter for the purpose of the bond election within said improvement district and for the purpose of taxation for the payment of said bonds and interest shall be limited, and apply only to said improvement district of said county water district. The determination of the board of directors on this question shall be final and conclusive. The resolution of the board of directors expressing its determination in the matter having been adopted, said board of directors, if they deem it necessary to incur such bonded indebtedness, shall by a resolution so declare and state the purpose for which the proposed debt is to be incurred, whether or not the whole of the county water district is to be benefited thereby or only a portion thereof, and if only a portion thereof, a description of such portion sufficient for identification and the designation thereof as hereinafter provided for for all in accord with the determination of the board as expressed in its previous resolution, the amount of debt to be incurred, the maximum term of the bonds to be issued shall run before maturity, which shall not exceed forty years, and the amount or rate of interest to be paid which shall not exceed seven per cent per annum, payable annually or semi-annually and the proposition to be submitted to the electors. The board of directors shall fix a date upon which an election shall be held for the purpose of authorizing said bonded indebtedness to be incurred. It shall be the duty of the board of directors to provide for holding such special election on the day so fixed, in accordance with the general election laws of the state, so far as the same shall be applicable, except as herein otherwise provided. Such board of directors shall give notice of the holding of such election, which notice shall contain the resolution calling the election adopted by the board of directors of the water district, boundaries of voting precincts, which shall include therein only such portions of the district as will be benefited, as stated in such resolution, the location of polling places, and the names of the officers selected to conduct the election, who shall consist of one judge, one inspector and two clerks in each precinct. Such notice shall be published for two weeks in at least one newspaper printed and published in such water district, which newspaper or newspapers shall be designated by the board of directors; and if there is no newspaper printed and published in such water district, then by posting, such notice in three public places in the said county water district if the entire water district has been found to be benefited or otherwise in said improvement district so created therein. Every qualified elector residing within such voting precincts, but no others, shall be entitled to vote at such election. All the expenses of holding such election shall be borne by the county water district. The returns of such election shall be made to and the votes canvassed by said board of directors on the first Monday following said election, and the results thereof ascertained and declared in accordance with the general election laws of the state, so far as they may be applicable, except as herein otherwise provided. The secretary of the board of directors, as soon as the result is declared, shall enter in the records of such board a statement of such result. No irregularities or informalities in conducting such election shall invalidate the same, if the election shall have otherwise been fairly conducted. Except as otherwise provided for herein, said election shall be called, managed and directed as is by law provided for general elections in this state applicable thereto. (Stats. 1923, p. 314; 1925, p. 987.)

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[1] See note following section 22.

*Montecito Co. Water Dist.* vs. *Doulton*, 193 Cal. 398, 224 Pac. 747.

### Two-thirds Vote Necessary.

SEC. 16. If from such returns it appears that more than two-thirds of the votes cast at such election were in favor of and assented to the incurring of such indebtedness, then the board of directors may, by resolution, at such time or times as it deems proper, provide for the form and execution of such bonds and for the issuance of any part thereof, and may sell or dispose of the bonds so issued at such times or in such manner as it may deem to be to the public interest.

### Value of Bonds Issued

SEC. 17. Any bonds issued by any district organized under the provisions of this act are hereby given the same force, value and use as bonds issued by any municipality and shall be exempt from all taxation within the State of California.

### Power to Construct Works.

SEC. 18. The board of directors shall have power to construct works across any stream of water, watercourse, street, avenue, highway, railway, canal, ditch, or flume which the route of said works may intersect or cross; provided, such works are constructed in such manner as to afford security for life and property, and said board of directors shall restore the crossings and intersections to their former state as near as may be, or in a manner not to have impaired unnecessarily their usefulness. Every company whose right of way shall be intersected or crossed by said works shall unite with said board of directors in forming said intersections and crossings and grant the rights therefor. The right of way is hereby given, dedicated and set apart to locate, construct and maintain said works over and through any of the lands which are now or may be the property of this state, and to have the same rights and privileges appertaining thereto as have been or may be granted to the municipalities within the state.

## WATER RATES AND TAXES

### Water Rates.

SEC. 19. The board of directors shall fix all water rates, subject to the power of the state railroad commission to fix rates for water furnished to municipal corporations and their inhabitants, and shall through the general manager collect the charges for the sale and distribution of water to all customers. (Amended Stats. 1915, p. 26.)

### Rate to Pay Operating Expenses.

SEC. 20. The board of directors in the furnishing of water shall fix such rate as will pay the operating expenses of the district, provide for repairs and depreciation of works owned or operated by it, pay the interest on any bonded debt, and, so far as possible, provide a sinking or other fund for the payment of the principal of such debt as it may become due; it being the intention of this section to require the district to pay the interest and principal of its bonded debt from the revenues of the district. Provided, however, that if any district shall have heretofore or hereafter issued any bonds for the purpose of storing water for the benefit of the district or conserving water for future use or appropriating, acquiring or conserving water and water rights for any useful purpose, or to prevent interference with or diminution of the natural flow of any stream or natural subterranean supply of water used or useful for any purposes of the district or for a common benefit to the lands within the district or its inhabitants, then such district shall, so long as bonds remain outstanding and prior to the time that the district shall receive any operating revenues from the sale of such water, levy and cause to be levied in the manner hereinafter provided a tax each year until said bonds are paid, or until there shall be a sum in the treasury of said district set apart for that purpose to meet all sums coming due for principal and interest on such bonds, a tax sufficient to pay the annual interest on such bonds and also such part of the principal thereof as shall become due before the time for fixing the next general county tax levy; provided, further, that if the maturity of the indebtedness created by such issue of bonds be made to begin more than one year after the date of issuance of such bonds, such tax shall be levied and collected at the time and in the manner hereinafter provided, annually each year sufficient to pay the interest on such indebtedness as it falls due and also to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof on or before maturity. (Amended, Stats. 1931, p. 81.)

### Tax Levy to Pay Deficit.

Sec. 21. If from any cause, the revenues of the water district shall be, or in the judgment of the board of directors are likely to be, inadequate to pay the interest on or principal of any bonded debt as it becomes due, or any other expenses or claims against the district, then the board of directors must, at least fifteen (15) days before the first day of the month in which the board of supervisors of the county or city and county in which such district is located is required by law to levy the amount of taxes required for county or city and county purposes, furnish to the board of supervisors and to the auditor, respectively, an estimate in writing of the minimum amount of money required by the district for the payment of the principal of or interest on any bonded debt as it becomes due, or which, in the judgment of the board of directors, will be required by such district for the payment of such principal or interest as aforesaid, together with a description of the portion of the district benefited thereby, as stated by the board of directors in the resolution declaring the necessity to incur such bonded indebtedness, and also of the minimum amount of money required by the district for any other purpose in this section set forth, and the board of supervisors of such county or city and county must annually, at the time and in the manner of levying other county or city and county taxes and until any such bonded debt is fully paid, levy upon the property within the portion of the district so benefited and cause to be collected, a tax sufficient for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonded indebtedness to be known as the "______ county water district board tax"; and until all other expenses or claims are fully paid, levy upon all of the property within the district and cause to be collected a tax sufficient for the payment thereof to be known as the "______ county water district water tax." Where with relation to any such bonded indebtedness, the determination of the board of directors as expressed in its resolution shall have been to the effect that the whole of the said district was benefited by the purpose thereof, it will be sufficient for the purpose of this section to simply state that the whole of the district was so benefited. (Amended Stats. 1931, p. 81.)

*Montecito Co. Water Dist.* vs. *Doulton,* 193 Cal. 398, 224 Pac. 747.

### Levy and Collection of Tax.

SEC. 22. Such taxes for the payment of the interest on or principal of any such bonded debt shall be levied on the property within the portion or portions of the district benefited thereby as stated by the board of directors in accordance with their determination in the resolution declaring such determination, as well as in their resolution declaring the necessity for such indebtedness, and all taxes for other purposes shall be levied on all property in the territory comprising the district. All such taxes shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner and form as county taxes are collected, and when collected shall be paid to the district for which such taxes were levied and collected. Such taxes, if for the payment of a bonded debt or the interest thereon, shall be a lien on all the property benefited thereby, as so stated in the resolution of the board of directors aforesaid, and all taxes for other purposes shall be a lien on all the property in the territory comprising the district; and said taxes whether for the payment of a bonded indebtedness or the interest thereon or for other purposes, shall be of the same force and effect as other liens for taxes, and their collection shall be enforced by the same means as provided for in the enforcement of liens for state and county taxes. (Stats. 1915, p. 29; 1923, p. 315; 1925, p. 987.)

NOTE.—Chapter 457 of the Statutes of 1925 (p. 987), which amended sections 15, 21 and 22 of this act, contained the following section, which must be interpreted as a limitation on these three sections:

SEC. 4. This act shall have no effect with regard to any bonded indebtedness of the district heretofore authorized by vote of the electors of the district in accord with the law in force at the time of such authorization, whether all of said bonds so authorized have been heretofore issued and sold or not, but all such bonds so authorized may be issued and sold in conformity with the law in force at the time of such authorization, and all provisions of such laws applicable to such bonds at the time of such authorization shall, with regard to said bonds, continue in full force and effect.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Initiative.

SEC. 23. Ordinances may be passed by the electors of any county water district organized under the provisions of this act in accordance with the methods provided by the general laws of the state for direct legislation applicable to counties.

### Referendum.

SEC. 24. Ordinances may be disapproved and thereby vetoed by the electors of any such county water district by proceeding in accordance with the methods provided by the general laws of the state for protesting against legislation by counties.

### Adding to District—Portion of County or Municipality.

SEC. 25. Any portion of a county or any municipality, or both, may be added to any county water district organized under the provisions of this act, at any time, upon petition presented in the manner herein provided for the organization of such water district, which petition may be granted by ordinance of the board of directors of such water district. Such ordinance shall be submitted for adoption or rejection to the vote of the electors in such water district and in the proposed addition, at a general or special election held as herein provided, within seventy days after the adoption of such ordinance. If such ordinance is approved, the president and secretary of the board of directors shall certify that fact to the secretary of state and to the county recorder of the county in which such water district is located. Upon the receipt of such last mentioned certificate the secretary of state shall, within ten days, issue his certificate, reciting the passage of said ordinance and the addition of said territory to said district. A copy of such certificate shall be transmitted to and filed with the county clerk of the county in which such county water district is situated. From and after the date of such certificate the territory named therein shall be deemed added to and form a part of said county water district, with all the rights, privileges and powers set forth in this act and necessarily incident thereto.

*San Gabriel Co. Water Dist.* vs. *Richardson*, 68 Cal. App. 297, 228 Pac. 1055.

**Other Acts Not Repealed; Definitions; Proceedings Validated.**

Sec. 26. Nothing in this act shall be so construed as repealing or in anywise modifying the provisions of any other act relating to water or the supply of water to, or the acquisition thereof by counties or municipalities within this state, and notwithstanding any of the provisions of this act or of any other act the holder or holders of title or evidence of title of any tract or tracts of land which may be within the boundaries of any county water district formed under the provisions of this act may petition for the inclusion of such land, and such land may be included within an irrigation district formed under the California irrigation district act, under the same conditions and in the same manner as if such land was not within the boundaries of such county water district, but such inclusion shall not be made unless it shall appear and the board of directors of the irrigation district within which such lands are about to be included shall find that the county water district within which such lands are situated shall have been in existence for not less than five years immediately preceding the date of the filing of the petition for inclusion with the secretary of the board of directors of the irrigation district and that at the date of the filing of such petition such county water district shall not be delivering and is not prepared to deliver water from the irrigation works owned by such county water district to such lands for irrigation purposes. No lands, however, within such county water district so included within the boundaries of an irrigation district shall be released from any of the burdens, obligations or liabilities of such county water district because of such inclusion within an irrigation district but shall, so far as such inclusion is concerned, continue to be in all respects a part of such county water district. The term "municipality," as used in this act, shall include a consolidated city and county, city or town, and shall be understood and so construed as to include, and is hereby declared to include, all corporations heretofore organized and now existing and those hereafter organized for municipal purposes within such water districts. The term "county" shall be understood and construed to include "city and county." In municipalities in which there is no mayor the duty imposed upon said officer by the provisions of this act shall be performed by the president of the board of trustees or other chief executive of the municipality. The word "district" shall apply, unless otherwise expressed or used, to a water district formed under the provisions of this act, and the word "board" and the words "board of directors" shall apply to the board of directors of such district. Any county water district heretofore organized under the provisions of the act of which this act is amendatory shall enjoy all the powers herein granted and the organization of such districts and all proceedings leading to such organization are hereby affirmed and validated and such districts are hereby declared to be duly organized and incorporated. (Amended, Stats. 1931, p. 2511.)

### Duties Performed by Registrar of Voters.

SEC. 27. Whenever a registrar of voters in any county, or city and county, shall be appointed, or elected, under the provisions of law, or charter providing therefor, the duties imposed on the county clerk by the provisions of this act shall be performed by the registrar of voters with like effect, and in such case all papers or documents required to be filed with the county clerk shall be filed with said registrar of voters when so appointed or elected.

### Exclusion of Territory.

SEC. 28. Any territory, included within any county water district formed under the provisions of this act, and not benefited in any manner by such district, or its continued inclusion therein, may be excluded therefrom by order of the board of directors of such district upon the verified petition of the owner or owners in fee of lands whose assessed value, with improvements, is in excess of one-half of the assessed value of all the lands, with improvements, held in private ownership in such territory. Said petition shall describe the territory sought to be excluded and shall set forth that such territory is not benefited in any manner by said county water district or its continued inclusion therein, and shall pray that such territory may be excluded and taken from said district. Such petition shall be filed with the secretary of the water district and shall be accompanied by a deposit with such secretary of the sum of one hundred dollars, to meet the expenses of advertising and other costs incident to the proceedings for the exclusion of such territory, including the cost of recording a certified copy of the order hereinafter provided for, any unconsumed balance to be returned to the petitioner. Upon the filing of such petition with the secretary of the water district he shall call a meeting of the board of directors of the district at a time not less than twenty-five days nor more than fifty days after the filing of the petition and cause a notice of the filing of such petition to be published for at least two weeks in some newspaper of general circulation within said district, if there be one, and if not, in some newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the district is situated. Such notice shall also state the date of the filing of such petition and that the same will come on for hearing before the board of directors of the district and shall state the time of the hearing and the place thereof, which shall be the regular meeting place of the board of directors of the district; provided, that the board may adjourn the hearing to a more convenient meeting place within the district. Any landowner or taxpayer within the district shall have the right to appear at said hearing, either in behalf of or in opposition to the granting of said petition. Said petition shall come on for hearing before the board of directors of the district at the time and place specified in the notice of hearing. If upon such hearing the board of directors determines that it is for the best interests of the district that the lands mentioned in the petition, or some portion thereof, be excluded from the district, or if it appears that such lands, or some portion thereof, will not be benefited by their continued inclusion in the district, then the board of directors shall make an order that such lands, or such portion thereof, be excluded from the district, such order to describe specifically the lands so excluded. From the time of the making of such order the lands so excluded shall be deemed to be no longer included in the district, but such order of exclusion shall not be taken to invalidate in any manner any taxes or assessments theretofore levied or assessed against the lands so excluded. A copy of such order of exclusion, certified to by the secretary of the district, shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the district is situated and the record of such certified copy shall be deemed prima facie evidence of the exclusion from the district of the lands purporting to be excluded thereby.

The board of directors of any county water district formed under the provisions of this act may itself initiate the proceedings for the exclusion from the district of any land or lands which it may not be for the best interests of the district to be included, or which may not be benefited in any manner by their continued inclusion therein. Such proceedings shall be initiated by the board of directors by the passage of a resolution requiring all persons interested to appear and show cause before the board of directors, at a time and place specified, why such lands, describing them, should not be excluded from the district and fixing a time and place for such hearing and directing the secretary of the district to give notice of the passage of such resolution and of such hearing. Upon the passage of such resolution the secretary of the district shall give notice thereof and of the time and place of such hearing in the manner hereinbefore prescribed for notice of hearing upon petition by a landowner or landowners, and thereafter all proceedings shall be had in the manner and with the effect herein provided for proceedings upon a petition by a landowner or landowners. The time of hearing fixed by the board of directors by its resolution hereinbefore mentioned shall be not less than twenty-five days nor more than fifty days after the passage of such resolution and the place of hearing so fixed shall be a convenient place within the district; provided, that the final action of the board of directors under this section shall be subject to the referendum by the electors of the water district according to section 24 of this act. (Added Stats. 1917, p. 225.)

## BONDS AND PROCEEDINGS VALIDATED

*An act to validate all proceedings for the issuance of bonds and all bonds heretofore issued or sold or to be issued or sold by any county water district, providing for the application of the proceeds of sale of such bonds and authorizing and directing the levy and collection of a tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereof.*

(Approved March 25, 1931, Stats. 1931, p. 83.)

### All Prior Proceedings Ratified and Approved.

SECTION 1. Where in any county water district organized under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation and organization and management of county water districts, and to provide for the acquisition of water rights or construction thereby of waterworks and for the acquisition of all property necessary therefor, and also to provide for the distribution and sale of water by said districts," approved June 10, 1913, proceedings have been taken for the purpose of voting upon, issuing or selling bonds of such district for any purpose or purposes, all acts and proceedings of the board of directors of such district, the officers of election and all other acts and proceedings leading up to and including the issuance of such bonds, if they have been heretofore sold, and all such acts and proceedings heretofore had, although the bonds are not yet sold, are hereby legalized, confirmed and validated to all intents and purposes, and the power of such district and of the board of directors thereof to issue and sell such bonds is hereby ratified, confirmed and approved, and said bonds heretofore sold are declared to be and shall be, in the form and manner in which said bonds have been actually sold and delivered, the legal and valid obligations of and against such district, and said bonds heretofore authorized to be issued and hereafter sold and delivered are declared to be and shall be legal and binding obligations of such district, and the full faith and credit of such district is hereby declared to be pledged for the prompt payment of the principal and interest thereof.

### Authority of Board of Directors to Apply Proceeds.

SEC. 2. The proceeds of the sale of any such bonds, whether heretofore sold or hereafter sold and delivered, may be applied by the board of directors of any such district in the manner now or hereafter provided by law for the purpose of carrying out in any manner the general purposes for which such district was organized, and notwithstanding that the method of application of such proceeds was not expressly authorized by law at the time of the calling or holding of the election at which such bonds were authorized to be issued.

### Board of Directors Directed to Levy Taxes.

SEC. 3. For the purpose of paying interest on such bonds as it becomes due, and the principal thereof on or before maturity, the board of directors of such district is hereby authorized and directed to cause taxes to be levied in the manner now or hereafter provided by the provisions of said act.

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# PUBLICATIONS
# DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

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# DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA

When the Department of Public Works was created in July, 1921, the State Water Commission was succeeded by the Division of Water Rights, and the Department of Engineering was succeeded by the Division of Engineering and Irrigation in all duties except those pertaining to State Architect. Both the Division of Water Rights and the Division of Engineering and Irrigation functioned until August, 1929, when they were consolidated to form the Division of Water Resources.

### STATE WATER COMMISSION

**First Report, State Water Commission, March 24 to November 1, 1912.**
**Second Report, State Water Commission, November 1, 1912, to April 1, 1914.**
*Biennial Report, State Water Commission, March 1, 1915, to December 1, 1916.
Biennial Report, State Water Commission, December 1, 1916, to September 1, 1918.
Biennial Report, State Water Commission, September 1, 1918, to September 1, 1920.

### DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

*Bulletin No. 1—Hydrographic Investigation of San Joaquin River, 1920–1923.
*Bulletin No. 2—Kings River Investigation, Water Master's Reports, 1918–1923.
*Bulletin No. 3—Proceedings First Sacramento-San Joaquin River Problems Conference, 1924.
*Bulletin No. 4—Proceedings Second Sacramento-San Joaquin River Problems Conference, and Water Supervisor's Report, 1924.
*Bulletin No. 5—San Gabriel Investigation—Basic Data, 1923–1926.
**Bulletin No. 6—San Gabriel Investigation—Basic Data, 1926–1928.**
**Bulletin No. 7—San Gabriel Investigation—Analysis and Conclusions, 1929.**
*Biennial Report, Division of Water Rights, 1920–1922.
*Biennial Report, Division of Water Rights, 1922–1924.
Biennial Report, Division of Water Rights, 1924–1926.
Biennial Report, Division of Water Rights, 1926–1928.

### DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

*Bulletin No. 1—Cooperative Irrigation Investigations in California, 1912–1914.
*Bulletin No. 2—Irrigation Districts in California, 1887–1915.
Bulletin No. 3—Investigations of Economic Duty of Water for Alfalfa in Sacramento Valley, California, 1915.
*Bulletin No. 4—Preliminary Report on Conservation and Control of Flood Waters in Coachella Valley, California, 1917.
*Bulletin No. 5—Report on the Utilization of Mojave River for Irrigation in Victor Valley, California, 1918.
*Bulletin No. 6—California Irrigation District Laws, 1919 (now obsolete).
Bulletin No. 7—Use of water from Kings River, California, 1918.
*Bulletin No. 8—Flood Problems of the Calaveras River, 1919.
Bulletin No. 9—Water Resources of Kern River and Adjacent Streams and Their Utilization, 1920.
*Biennial Report, Department of Engineering, 1907–1908.
*Biennial Report, Department of Engineering, 1908–1910.
*Biennial Report, Department of Engineering, 1910–1912.
*Biennial Report, Department of Engineering, 1912–1914.
*Biennial Report, Department of Engineering, 1914–1916.
*Biennial Report, Department of Engineering, 1916–1918.
*Biennial Report, Department of Engineering, 1918–1920.

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*Reports and Bulletins out of print. These may be borrowed by your local library from the California State Library at Sacramento, California.

## DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

### Including Reports of the Former Division of Engineering and Irrigation

*Bulletin No. 1—California Irrigation District Laws, 1921 (now obsolete).
*Bulletin No. 2—Formation of Irrigation Districts, Issuance of Bonds, etc., 1922.
Bulletin No. 3—Water Resources of Tulare County and Their Utilization, 1922.
Bulletin No. 4—Water Resources of California, 1923.
Bulletin No. 5—Flow in California Streams, 1923.
Bulletin No. 6—Irrigation Requirements of California Lands, 1923.
*Bulletin No. 7—California Irrigation District Laws, 1923 (now obsolete).
*Bulletin No. 8—Cost of Water to Irrigators in California, 1925.
Bulletin No. 9—Supplemental Report on Water Resources of California, 1925.
*Bulletin No. 10—California Irrigation District Laws, 1925 (now obsolete).
Bulletin No. 11—Ground Water Resources of Southern San Joaquin Valley, 1927.
Bulletin No. 12—Summary Report on the Water Resources of California and a Coordinated Plan for Their Development, 1927.
Bulletin No. 13—The Development of the Upper Sacramento River, containing U. S. R. S. Cooperative Report on Iron Canyon Project, 1927.
Bulletin No. 14—The Control of Floods by Reservoirs, 1928.
*Bulletin No. 18—California Irrigation District Laws, 1927 (now obsolete).
*Bulletin No. 18—California Irrigation District Laws, 1929 Revision (now obsolete).
Bulletin No. 18-B—California Irrigation District Laws, 1931, Revision.
Bulletin No. 19—Santa Ana Investigation, Flood Control and Conservation (with packet of maps), 1928.
Bulletin No. 20—Kennett Reservoir Development, an Analysis of Methods and Extent of Financing by Electric Power Revenue, 1929.
Bulletin No. 21—Irrigation Districts in California, 1929.
Bulletin No. 21-A—Report on Irrigation Districts in California for the Year 1929, 1930.
Bulletin No. 21-B—Report on Irrigation Districts in California for the year 1930, 1931.
Bulletin No. 22—Report on Salt Water Barrier (two volumes), 1929.
Bulletin No. 23—Report of Sacramento-San Joaquin Water Supervisor, 1924–1928.
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Bulletin No. 25—Report to Legislature of 1931 on State Water Plan, 1930.
Bulletin No. 28-A—Industrial Survey of Upper San Francisco Bay Area, 1930.
Bulletin No. 31—Santa Ana River Basin, 1930.
Bulletin No. 32—South Coastal Basin, a Cooperative Symposium, 1930.
Bulletin No. 33—Rainfall Penetration and Consumptive Use of Water in Santa Ana River Valley and Coastal Plain, 1930.
Bulletin No. 34—Permissible Annual Charges for Irrigation Water in Upper San Joaquin Valley, 1930.
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*Bulletin No. 36—Cost of Irrigation Water in California, 1930.
Bulletin No. 37—Financial and General Data Pertaining to Irrigation, Reclamation and Other Public Districts in California, 1930.
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*Irrigation Resources of California and Their Utilization (Bul. 254, Office of Exp. U. S. D. A.) 1913.
*Report, State Water Problems Conference, November 25, 1916.
*Report on Pit River Basin, April, 1915.
*Report on Lower Pit River Project, July, 1915.
*Report on Iron Canyon Project, 1914.
*Report on Iron Canyon Project, California, May, 1920.
*Sacramento Flood Control Project (Revised Plans), 1925.
Report of Commission Appointed to Investigate Causes Leading to the Failure of St. Francis Dam, 1928.
Report of the Joint Committee of the Senate and Assembly Dealing With the Water Problems of the State, 1929.
Report of the California Joint Federal-State Water Resources Commission, 1930.
Conclusions and Recommendations of the Report of the California Irrigation and Reclamation Financing and Refinancing Commission, 1930.
Report of the Joint Committee of the Senate and Assembly Dealing with the Water Problems of the State, 1931.

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## PAMPHLETS

Rules and Regulations Governing the Supervision of Dams in California, 1929.
Water Commission Act with Amendments Thereto, 1931.
Rules, Regulations and Information Pertaining to Appropriation of Water in California, 1930.
Rules and Regulations Governing the Determination of Rights to Use of Water in Accordance with the Water Commission Act, 1925.
Tables of Discharge for Parshall Measuring Flumes, 1928.
General Plans, Specifications and Bills of Material for Six and Nine Inch Parshall Measuring Flumes, 1930.

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